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A Weekly Newspaper for All Classes.

ONE PENNY. [Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.]

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THIRD EDITION.
"THE PEOPLE" OFFICE.
Saturday Evening.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.)

THE EUROPEAN SITUATION.

A Russian Statement.

ST. PETERSBURG, January 26.—The semi-official *Journal de St. Petersburg* to-day says:—"Certain newspapers, as for instance, the *Pester Lloyd*, a London morning journal, and the *Cologne Gazette*, continue to publish alarmist intelligence in regard to Russia. The Hungarian and English newspapers in question have spoken of a projected loan with a warlike object, notwithstanding the statement made by M. Vyshnegradsky that, should he contract a loan, it would be solely for the construction of railways of special interest for Russian industries, and even then only on advantageous terms. The *Cologne Gazette* publishes two sensational items, one concerning alleged orders for the march to the Austrian frontier of an army corps in the Caucasus, the other alluding to secret Kussian designs upon Erzerum. The *Gazette*, however, does not explain that whenever Russia desires to undertake some great action in Asia Minor she cannot think of denuding the Caucasus of one half of its troops. These two assertions so evidently disprove each other from their contradictory character that to place them in juxtaposition suffices to show what they are worth."

THE FINANCES OF INDIA.

A New Tax.

CALCUTTA, January 28.—Mr. James Westland, Financial Secretary to the Government of India, has introduced a bill in the Legislative Council authorising the levying of a duty of 5 per cent. on petroleum. He made a statement to the effect that the financial position of the country was unsatisfactory, owing to the losses from exchange, the expenditure on the defences of India, the cost of the Burmese campaign, the fall in the price of opium, and the decline in the railway receipts.

COURT BALL AT THE RUSSIAN WINTER PALACE.

ST. PETERSBURG, January 27.—The *Grashden* to-day states that at yesterday's Court ball at the Winter Palace, General Von Schweinitz, the German ambassador, occupied during supper a seat at the Imperial table, being placed at the right of the Czarina. On her Majesty's left was seated Chakir Pacha, the Ottoman ambassador. The Czar was not present at the supper, but walked through the ball-rooms and conversed with his guests.

THE GERMAN ARMY BILL.—

£14,000,000 WANTED.

An Additional 700,000 Men.

Not a little side-light (the Berlin correspondent of the *Times* says) was thrown on the European situation in the sitting of the select committee now considering in detail the new Army Bill which, when passed, as it is quite sure to be, will add about 700,000 men (not merely half a million, as at first calculated) to the fighting strength of the empire in time of war:—"Before the committee began the second reading of the measure, the War Minister, General Bransort von Schellendorf, volunteered the statement that the initial cost of the change (apart from the annual expense of maintaining it) would be no less than 250,000,000m., or £14,000,000. This is an enormous sum, and if the demand had been sprung upon the nation suddenly, it would have taken away every body's breath. But the country was led up gradually to this stupefying financial climax, first by vague hints at the likely magnitude of the sacrifice to be imposed upon it, and then by the conjectural mention of positive figures, beginning with 100,000,000m., and ending now with nearly three times that huge amount. This sum is to be provided for a separate money bill (not yet before the Reichstag), and will in all probability be raised by a 3 per cent. Imperial loan. There is not the slightest doubt that, immense as is the sacrifice, the Reichstag will vote the money by a large majority, of which the backbone will consist of the United Conservatives and National Liberals, who last winter renewed the secessions, and increased the peace establishment of the Army by 50,000 men. The fact is that the Reichstag for once in a way now truly reflects the sentiments of the nation at large, which is in a very serious mood, and feels that in presence of the highly combustible state of Europe hardly any sacrifice is too large that will help in saving the empire from the consequence of a disastrous war. If the spectacle of a united and determined people can do anything to deter other European nations of a reckless or revengeful spirit from stirring up a universal war, then surely Germany is now entitled to the credit of making a splendid—almost sublime—effort for the maintenance of peace."

EXTRAORDINARY DESTRUCTION OF VALUABLE OIL PAINTINGS.

On Thursday afternoon two furniture vans were proceeding through Cricklewood, filled with valuable oil paintings consigned to a firm in New Bond-street, and when near the Midland Railway arch crossing over the Edgware-road the second van was discovered to be on fire. All attempts to extinguish the flames were unavailing, and in an incredible short time the whole of the contents of the van were destroyed, the framework of the van alone being saved. An eye-witness described the fire to be "one of the most beautiful he ever saw." The loss is estimated at £30,000, one painting alone being worth £10,000, and the owner is stated to be a most wealthy nobleman and great patron of art.

THE BYFLEET MURDER: NO REWARD TO BE OFFERED.

The following letter has been received by the coroner for Surrey, in regard to the proposed offer of a reward for further information respecting the Byfleet murder:—"Whitehall, Jan. 23, 1888.—Sir, I am directed by the Secretary of State to return herewith the depositions forwarded with your letter of the 18th inst., in the matter of the murder of George Chuter, and with reference to your recommendation I am to say that the practice of offering rewards by the Government for information in criminal cases has been discontinued for some time past, and that the Secretary of State, having carefully considered the circumstances, does not feel justified in departing from the rule in the present case. I am, sir, your obedient servant, GODFREY LUSHINGTON."

THE OPENING OF PARLIAMENT.
The Marquis of Salisbury and Mr. W. H. Smith have issued circulars to their supporters in the two Houses calling attention to the fact that Parliament is summoned to meet on February 9th for the despatch of business, "and as questions of the utmost importance will be at once submitted for its consideration, I trust it may be in your power to attend in your place on that day." Mr. Gladstone has also issued a circular to his supporters.

A BOOKMAKER'S DIVORCE SUIT.
In the Divorce Division on Friday, Mr. Justice Butt and a common jury had before them the consolidated suits of Dunn v. Dunn and Wall, and Dunn v. Dunn. In the first petition the husband, Mr. Richard Dunn, sought a divorce by reason of the alleged adultery of his wife with the respondent, Mr. Harry Wall, jun., against whom damages were claimed. Answers were filed denying the charge, and in a cross-suit, the wife alleged cruelty and adultery on the part of her husband, which he denied. Mr. Inderwick, Q.C., Mr. Bayford, Q.C., and Mr. Middleton appeared for the husband; Sir Charles Russell, Q.C., Mr. Filian, and Mr. Todd for the wife; and Mr. Cock, Q.C., and Mr. Beard for the respondent. In opening the case, Mr. Inderwick said that Mr. Richard Dunn (for whom he appeared) lived in Adelaide-road, Haverstock Hill, and he was what was commonly known as a bookmaker, attending race courses. He was married on the 8th of June, 1874, to Miss Mary Ann Keys. There were five children of the marriage. The husband, as would be shown by the evidence, always treated his wife with great kindness, being very much attached to her, but she had a serious failing, viz., she was given to habits of intemperance. This caused unpleasantness between Mr. and Mrs. Dunn. They were fairly well off, because he was a man of business, and had saved a considerable amount of money. She kept a carriage, and they lived in very great comfort. About the summer of 1886 she appeared to have made the acquaintance of a family of the name of Mr. and Mrs. Wall, and their son Harry. Mr. Dunn, in the course of his business, was necessarily a great deal away from home, but when the racing season was not on he used to take his wife out and about, and on one occasion he took her to the south of France. In the autumn of 1886 Mrs. Dunn went with her children and some members of her family to Margate, where they had a house for a month or so at the time. Mr. Dunn knew nothing of the Walls' except having met them at some friend's house. While there young Wall turned up and was frequently in the society of Mrs. Dunn, and she also visited him at his parents' house in Colebrooke-row, Islington. Upon one occasion they went to Mr. Jennings's benefit at the Oxford Music Hall, where they spent the evening and had supper, and on their return, there being no bed-room available, a temporary bed was rigged up for him on the dining-room sofa. According to the evidence which would be given, Mrs. Dunn spent a very great portion of the night with this young man. The learned counsel then proceeded to refer to further evidence that would be given, and said that as soon as it came to the petitioner's knowledge in regard to the conduct of his wife he ordered her to leave the house, after which she went to reside with the Walls, where she had remained ever since. After the opening statement of counsel, it being four o'clock, the court adjourned.

ESCAPING FROM THE POLICE.

A young lad, named Thomas Rogers, who was on Monday committed by the magistrates at Drogheda to a reformatory for five years, made his escape whilst being taken to the gaol and has since succeeded in eluding the police.

THE RECENT ROBBERY AT THE KILLARNEY POST OFFICE.

James Barry, one of the prisoners in custody in Galway Gaol charged with being concerned in the recent robbery at the Killarney post office, on Thursday intimated his willingness to show where the stolen money was concealed. He was accordingly taken to Killarney in custody on Friday, and he pointed out various hiding-places, with the result that £98 was recovered. One hundred pounds still remain missing.

A BETTING CASE.

In the Lord Mayor's Court on Friday, the case of Lawrence v. Bell came before the Recorder by way of an appeal for a new trial. Mr. Stephen Lynch appeared for the appellant Bell; Mr. G. Candy, Q.C., and Mr. Beaumont Morice for the respondent. At the trial a verdict for the plaintiff for £63 was given. Mr. Lynch now said that as his lordship would probably remember, the case arose out of some betting transactions, and some important points were involved from a betting point of view. The plaintiff was in the habit of making bets with the defendant as an agent, and duly paid him commissions on winnings. The plaintiff forwarded him instructions to back Kilwarlin for the St. Leger at 100 to 14; but in consequence of the plaintiff not having paid certain previous accounts the bet was scratched by the defendant. The plaintiff had sued for money received, but the defendant never did make the bet at all, and therefore the plaintiff could only recover damages for not making the bet. As a matter of fact, the defendant was a bookmaker, and not a commission agent at all. Owing to the action of the police, there were no bookmakers now. They were all agents. The Recorder: How have the police transformed them?—Mr. Candy: They have covered their nakedness. (Laughter.)

Mr. Lynch said that the case here was not affected whether the defendant was a bookmaker or agent. He was instructed to make certain bets, and the defendant contended that he had the right to scratch them in consequence of the plaintiff not having conformed to the betting rules by paying previous losses. Even stronger than that were the rules of the Jockey Club, which said that all money for debts should be staked or that bets would be off. Mr. Candy argued that the defendant had accepted the instructions of the plaintiff. He could have rejected them, but having accepted them he was bound by them. The learned Recorder said that he would make no observations now, but no doubt the defendant laboured under a difficulty at the trial. He would order a rule absolute for a new trial upon the defendant paying the costs of the first.

The North Kensington Musical Society held a crowded reunion on Wednesday evening in the large room of Mr. A. W. Guillain's Junction Hotel, Westbourne Park, Mr. Dickenson, secretary of the Conservative local club, presiding. Mr. Louis Lee, A.R.A.M., was conductor. Miss Katie Lee's performance as a violin soloist was much appreciated.

STRANGE SUICIDE IN THE CITY:

Mr. S. F. Langham, the City coroner, held an inquiry on Friday at the Coroner's Court, Golden-lane, respecting the death of Frank Gaubert, aged 23, a commercial clerk, lately residing at 34, College-street, Islington, who was found lying in the lavatory at 24, Lombard-street on Wednesday last, with a pistol wound in the head.—Sidney Gaubert, brother of the deceased, stated that on Wednesday morning he left his brother at home, getting his breakfast. He then appeared to be in good health, and was in no way depressed. The witness knew that his brother had a revolver, which he purchased on New Year's Day, saying that it was for self-defence in case he was attacked. As far as the witness knew his brother had never threatened to destroy himself.—Alfred Gaubert, of St. Ann's-road, Green-lanes, also a brother of the deceased, stated that the night previous to the occurrence he was with his brother at the Atlas Cycling Club, where a dinner was taking place. The deceased was in excellent spirits.—Louis Serhuessler, a clerk, employed with the deceased at Messrs. Newmark and Willey's, Lombard-street, deposed that there were no irregularities in the accounts kept by the deceased. On Wednesday the deceased appeared as usual, but about two o'clock he suddenly left the office and went into the lavatory on the second floor. As he did not come downstairs the witness went to see if anything was the matter, and, pushing open the door, saw the body of the deceased lying behind it. He at once called a constable, and returning saw that there was a bullet wound in the right temple. He had often seen the revolver, and he believed that the deceased would not take his own life.—Miss Jessie Anderson, otherwise Catherine McKey, a single woman, living at 42, Park-street, Liverpool-road, stated that she had kept company with the deceased for the last two months. She saw him last at twenty minutes past twelve o'clock on Tuesday night. They had no quarrel and parted on the best of terms. She could not account for his committing suicide.—Dr. Clarke, of 13, Fenchurch-street, stated that he had examined the body and found a bullet wound in the right temple. The bullet had lodged in the brain and caused death.—The jury returned a verdict of suicide while temporarily insane.

THE SHOOTING OUTRAGE AT RAMSGATE.

Charles Pillow, one of the young men shot at Ramsgate on New Year's Day by Alan William Richardson, died at the Seamen's Infirmary on Thursday night. He was struck in the chest by the revolver shot, and from the first it was not expected that he would recover.

FOOTBALL AND SMALL-POX.

Efforts are being made by Mr. Tatham, president of the North-Western Association of Medical Officers of Health, and other medical officers in Lancashire, to prevent the English Football Association Cup tie between Preston North End and Sheffield Wednesday being played at Olive-grove Grounds, Sheffield, on Monday next, in consequence of the prevalence of small-pox in that district. The medical officer for Sheffield does not consider there is any danger in the match being played, but Dr. Tatham holds that as seventy-nine deaths from that epidemic have taken place this year alone in Sheffield, great danger will ensue upon crowds assembling at an important match like the one in question. He sees no one to go to Sheffield unless specially vaccinated, and it is stated that in consequence of representations which have been made to the railway companies, no special trains will be run should the match be played. Communications are now going on with the officials of the Football Association with a view to have the match played elsewhere.

MR. HOWARD VINCENT ON EDUCATIONAL REFORM.

Speaking at the *Journal of Education* on Thursday, Mr. Howard Vincent, and he had the best authority for stating that the proposed alterations in the American school system would not be put into effect by the 1st of January, and would meet with great opposition. In the most sanguine supporters of the proposed alterations by President Cleveland and Commissioner Covington, whatever of its educational value, is far less than the raw material. Mr. Vincent concluded that the chamber of trade would be seen to give a receipt for money given the men had refused to do so.—Mr. Wettenhall said the matter had occupied the attention, not only of the board, but of the fire brigade. It was to be regretted that impostors, dressed as firemen, were put to the offence. He had seen one of the collecting books, and gathered from it that in one week between 16 and 27, had been obtained. 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OUR LITERARY GALLERY.

POET, PRELATE, PLAYER,
PRIMA DONNA.

By W. DAVENPOLE ADAMS.

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Was it not Hazlitt who wrote an essay concerning his "First Acquaintance with Poets?" Everybody, I suppose, has at one time or another found himself thinking about a friend of his, and trying to recall to himself (not always successfully) where and when it was that he first met him. One gets accustomed to intimates, and cannot easily recollect the actual beginning of one's friendships—in some cases because they date from the time of one's boyhood, and have become inextricably "mixed."

On the other hand, there are acquaintanceships whose origins are more or less firmly fixed in the memory, because they have formed landmarks in the course of one's career. Mrs. Leo Hunter, for example, remembers distinctly the first "lion" whom she attracted to her soirees; it was an event in her life, and, so far as she is concerned, will never "fade into nothingness." In the same way, I presume, no one who has been all his (or her) life a lover of poetry has ever forgotten his (or her) earliest rencontre with a real live poet. Of course, I do not mean one of the ladies or gentlemen who contribute to the "poetry" column of the local paper, or who publish their own verses in elegant volumes "by subscription." I mean a poet or poetess, if you will—who has been accepted by the public and the critics as a possessor of the divine afflatus. Now, a good many years ago, when I was only just escaping from my teens, one or two such rhymers flitted across my line of vision. Of one of them I saw but little, and can remember but little about him, save that he had a bad cold, spoke with a strong Scottish accent, and wore very short trousers. The accent was easily accounted for, and the cold was not an extraordinary (though it was a derogatory) characteristic; but I recollect that I resented the brevity of the garments named. That, I confess, was rather a shock to me. I came across this same poet the other day, and was glad to observe that, though the accent was there, the cold was not, and circumstances kindly hid the trousers from me.

I dwell upon this matter of the catastrophe, because, when Poet No. 2 made his appearance, I discovered that he, too, was a victim of the elements, and had something wrong, apparently with the bronchial tubes. At any rate, he arrived (my memory tells me) muffled up to the eyes, and was, in truth, almost hidden by his outer covering, for he was, I regretted to observe, more than common short in stature. There is no reason in the world, of course, why a poet should not be a little man; it may be a case of "infinite riches in a little room." "You can love short as well as love long," says the diminutive character in the play, and so you can poete short as well as poete long. And yet to the enthusiast, who has probably called up visions of the personalities of his favourite bards, there is something disturbing, something even shocking, in the smallness of a poet. However, this particular bard made up in dignity for what he lacked in inches. There was pride in his port, defiance in his eye. He kept his head well back, and showed off to their full effect his hirsute locks. These were a redeeming feature. They are amply repaid perusal. They were of the true poetic cut—the true poetic quality. And the flashing eye, too, that was quite up to my youthful expectations. It had the genuine fire, and gleamed consummately.

And the legs also, though they were abbreviated beyond my hopes, proved themselves unquestionably serviceable. They were not allowed to be idle. My poet proved to be of the peripatetic persuasion. When there was a topic on the tips, *sicut in ambulo*—he worked it off while walking. I have a vivid recollection of the little bard strutting up and down the room, disengaging, disabusing, as he went. I remember imagined the impression that the poetic temperament was truly a very nervous, not to say an excitable one. That gentleman seemed on wires. And he appeared, moreover, to dwell perpetually in the empyrean of thought. There was a rapt look about his, which affected me greatly, though it suggested to me that the bard was one of those whom, in the homely phrase, one would rather keep beside one than a fortnight. It struck me that to live constantly in the presence of so much unceasing mental and physical energy must be rather fatiguing, after all. There was even something uncanny about this disciple of the muse. It seemed that he was an ardent believer in the phenomena of so-called spiritualism. He had much to tell of furniture moving and knick-knacks careering in the air—all of which he testified to having seen with his own eyes. It was no mere matter of opinion or hearsay: he assured us solemnly that these singular things had all happened within his own personal knowledge and experience.

I think it was about this time that I met my first bishop. That was an event, indeed, I cannot say how a young Dissenter feels on such a subject. I suppose he is brought up to regard a bishop with aversion, possibly with disrespect. But a young churchman—and one with a natural reverence for historic dignities and great traditions—how may he be expected to feel in the imminent presence of a Spiritual Lord? He sees him often more or less closely in the pulpit, almost hidden in his robes and sleeves, and even in the street, when the spectacle of shovelfat, and apron, and gaunter legs, is sufficiently full of awe till he finds that they are by no means the special perquisites of peers of the Church. But how about actual contact with him, eating with him, drinking with him—with perchance, talking with him? Is not that enough to set the pulses of the youthful churchman beating? I am bound to say that they beat in my case, and that by me the bishop was received with more *emphatic* than the poet. After all, what is a poet? One is a poet himself, for that matter—*in one's way*. But bishop! An incident indeed is the first shaking of hands with him, the first exchange of componances with him, the first sensation of breathing the same limited atmosphere with him, an atmosphere limited, that is, by the size of the apartment. And I am glad to say that after that bishop had taken his departure I found I had lost fewer illusions than in the case of the poet. To be sure, his lordship had said nothing that filled me with especial admiration; he had seemed to me a little uncertain on his legs—but then, he was a tall man, and an aged one withal, and one likes one's bishop to be venerable. If the truth must be told, he had appeared to pay more attention to his son than to his conversation, but that was but a testimony to his wisdom. Since then I have met many a bishop, and been admitted behind the scenes of the ecclesiastical arena, but, happily, my sentiment of respect for the episcopal order is not impaired. The first impression, obtained years ago, has not been materially altered; and I still reflect with pleasure on that bent form and furrowed face that hand which still turns the polished sentences, and that mouth from which still proceed the vigorous words denoting alike strength of character and mortal power.

I do not propose to tell you of my first acquaintance with players, but rather of my first acquaintance with a great player. With the rank and file of the profession some sort of friendship may be "scrapped" by the humblest, so long as he is in his pocket the whereabout to pay his reckoning at any hostelry adjacent to any Temple of the Drama. There is a certain class of actor which, as everybody knows, is not above frequenting the bars of "pubs," and accepting "one" or more of "Scotch" or "Irish" from the aspiring and admiring "Army." But the real giants and grotesques of the art, to their presence, fortunately, the entree is not so easy—at any rate, after they have attained to that agreeable altitude of fame. And, therefore, to the young, either in years or in labours, the first meeting with such

distinguished people is necessarily, and for excellent reasons, a matter of very great interest indeed. To have seen them "in multo" to have mixed with them in social intercourse, apart altogether from their calling, is to have done something to which one looks forward with curiosity, and on which one looks back with some amusement.

I was the theatrical critic of a "daily" in a great northern city—"the first city out of London" it would be called, were there not another which contests the title. I had been accustomed to hold myself as much aloof as possible from those upon whose performances it was my duty from time to time to pronounce, and, though I had performed been obliged to make a few acquaintances of the kind, was in no hurry to make more. Suddenly there appeared upon the local dramatic horizon a "star" which some had declared to be of the first magnitude, while others had decried its light-giving capacity in more or less abusive terms. It was a male "star," and it "opened," as the phrase goes, in "Hamlet"—a rôle in which it had been as fiercely condemned as it had been highly praised. I shall not readily forget the effect which the impersonation had upon myself. All the other Hamlets I had seen had been of the old school; here was one which was fresh and unconventional from beginning to end, and markedly original in certain features. I hope I did justice to those features, as well as to the general originality of the performance. But I remember that I was severe, as other critics had been, upon the new actor's physical deficiencies—his awkward gait, his undisciplined gestures, his singularly distressing elocution. His Hamlet, I declared, was peculiarly ungraceful, and could not be unreservedly praised until these defects of manner and speech had been corrected.

One day that week there came to my office an invitation, from the new actor to the theatrical critic of the paper, for the latter to sup with the former and a few friends on Friday evening after the performance. Now, my criticism on "Hamlet" had been accounted, locally, a "slating," and I was struck, when the invitation came, by the forgiving spirit of the would-be host. Should I accept the olive branch (if such it were)? I would. And I did. And so it happened that on the Friday evening the play was "Charles I.," and it so happened, too, that in the title rôle the new actor appeared to be a different being from him who had strutted and ranted in the part of Hamlet. Here, though the pronunciation was still quaint, the elocution was distinct enough, the tones were often pathetic, the gestures were touching, and the general bearing was kingly (as one conceives things kingly). I confess I was surprised, and most agreeably so, and I penned that night a "notice" in which I commended the English monarch as stoutly as (on certain points) I had condemned the Danish prince.

Thereby hangs a tale. The last sheet of the "notice" written, I bade me to the hotel where the supper was to be discussed, and in a few moments was in the presence, with others of my craft, of the actor who had during the last few days so largely exercised our minds. Had I not seen the "Charles I.," but simply met the actor after having seen the Hamlet only, how much more dramatic would have been the effect? For no greater contrast, so far as personality was concerned, could well have been conceived than that Hamlet of the Monday and the actor "in multo" of the Friday evening. On the Monday we had seen

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THROUGH THE LONG NIGHT.

BY MRS. LYNN LINTON.

AUTHOR OF "PATRICIA KENBALL," "THE ATONEMENT OF LEAH DUNDAS," "FASTON CAREW," &c., &c.

BOOK I.—TWILIGHT.

CHAPTER I.

THE "SACRA FAMES."

Preaching down a daughter's heart was not a difficult task to a mother like Mrs. Clanciardo. Circumstances compelled her conduct and character strengthened her resolve; and when conditions and feelings are in accord, there we have that triple wall of brass which no human power can break down.

We will enumerate the conditions and circumstances which made the mother preach down her daughter's heart. These were—an unbusinesslike husband, who never realised a security but he lost, nor moved an investment he had lessened it, yet who, believing in his commercial "flair," was always dabbling in the stock and share market for the benefit of every one but himself; the love of luxury and the enforced privations of genteel penury; the pride of ambition and the consciousness of gradual social decline; the irritation, coupled with contempt, natural to a clever woman keenly alive to the mistakes of her partner, yet powerless to prevent and doomed only to suffer; the mother's natural desire that her daughter's rare gift of supreme beauty should be utilised as her dowry, and should be the means of placing her beyond the reach of that grim wolf so closely investing her own homestead. All these created that "sacra fames" which made Mrs. Clanciardo as hard as iron, as cold as ice, and as cruel as death in the matter of Estelle's present love and potential marriage. It made her as one stone deaf to the alternate hymns and threnodies of love poured forth by Charlie Osborne—so handsome as a Greek god and as penniless as a church mouse. It made her as one stone blind to Estelle's tears, and sighs, and loss of appetite, and slightly faded bloom—saw that this last indeed arose in her a certain secret anger which was the sworn foe of pity. For this depreciation of her capital was as heinous an offence in Estelle, according to the mother's way of looking at things, as were Mr. Clanciardo's speculations in the House, whereby a thousand became five hundred, and percentage was the "pean deaderin" which every touch made smaller. In this momentous question of her marriage Mrs. Clanciardo assumed to know better than her daughter; and perhaps she was not far wrong in her assumption. Charlie Osborne had everything that a romantic girl adores, but that a far-seeing mother despises as the foundation of the home and family; and with Mrs. Clanciardo the mother's outlook overlapped the daughter's romance.

It made no difference in the ordering of things that no eligible party was at hand to take up the silver thread, which she was resolved Charlie Osborne should not hold. The two money-lenders, the one scantly-endowed vicar, and the rosy-gilled doctor who made up the bachelordom of Kingshouse, were not a whit more desirable than this impudent Euromon and half soaking. And Caleb Stagg, the only son and heir of old Miles Stagg, the wealthy owner of Redhill and a former coal-miner, was impossible—at least to Estelle, if Mrs. Clanciardo would have shut her eyes and swallowed the gilded sausage whole. But the chapter of accidents has a long coda; and the chapter of accidents in the life-story of a lovely girl of twenty has only just begun.

"It is of no use, Estelle," Mrs. Clanciardo would say, with her high-pitched tone and petulant French intonation; "it is of no use to cry and make a miserable face. If you marry Charlie Osborne you will marry into misery; and I would rather see you dead than go through what I have gone."

"If only you would believe in his future, and let us wait!" pleaded Estelle, tears in her large soft eyes, which were like big brown moths lying within a white seashell.

"His future! What of it? Child, how fatally touched you are with these stupid English notions!" said Mrs. Clanciardo warmly. "What is this young man's future?"

"Fame," said Estelle; "and fame is always fortune."

"Fame from what? A picture hung by the Royal Academy—a drama accepted by a theatrical manager?—a poem published by an enterprising publisher?—and none of the three strong enough for that success which includes a book's book! That is the future of your handsome Joconde, who aims at eagles and does not bring down even sparrows. And out of these, where, I ask you, is the pot-a-few?"

"You misjudge him, mother; you do not give him credit for what he is or has," said Estelle, doing battle for her beloved with gentle persistency rather than overt spirit. "He can be great in anything he undertakes. He is great already; only the world has not yet recognised his genius, as it will later—as it must."

"My dear Estelle, you speak like an ignorant child as you are. Real genius is concentrated, and does not go squandering itself all abroad on everything alike," returned Mrs. Clanciardo sensibly enough. "A universal genius is a fated failure, and never rises beyond mediocrity. He is always close on to, but never actually touches excellence or success. He is always just the line short. The golden water which is to fill a dry trench must run through a broad pipe in one flow, and not filter through a dozen little pinholes like a watering-pot. And we want our dry trench filled, Estelle; your poor miserable father has taken care of that!"

Mrs. Clanciardo never lost an opportunity of impressing on Estelle the contemptible delinquencies of her father. To the jealous French mother the daughter ought to belong to her exclusively, and she did not approve of divided sympathies. Besides, that patriotism which meant opposition to the present condition of things counted for something in her jealousy; and the French woman born and bred and never sincerely naturalised, for all that she was as English in speech and manner as any one else, did her best to prevent her daughter from becoming too Britannic in her ideas. She had already imbibed that fatal poison of belief in love and romance which ruined half the English girls and shamed the common sense of half the mothers; and Mrs. Clanciardo's one great desire was to root out these pernicious weeds from Estelle's mind, and plant in their stead wise views of social life and a just estimate of the creature comforts to be got by money.

"Girls are so silly," she used to say, curling her thin mobile lips into that expressive line of illimitable contempt which only such lips can take. "As if love can pay the rent, or kisses feed the children!—as if the husband matters one jot so long as he has money and knows how to use it!—as if I would not rather have married a veritable gnome than this wretched creature of mine, with his six feet of folly and his barber's block of vanity!"

It did not mend matters that Mr. Clanciardo was secretly on his daughter's side in this matter of her young love, seeing that for peace' sake he was compelled to be openly on his wife's side. Taking his own disastrous way as he did in the manipulation of his funds, he made a point of following her fortunes and alienating her affections by refusing to listen to her advice, he made himself so supple, sweet, and tender in the home that, although he despised and disliked his heartily enough, he had no more power to find cause against him—on the side opposition for its own sake only—that he would have to crush an indubitable ball. His prompt acquiescence in her repudiation of Charlie Osborne as a husband for Estelle almost made her waver in her own decision. If George could see good reasons why it should not be, the chances were these reasons were bad, and the other side might have something to say for itself. But maternal prudence was stronger than even conjugal dissension; and after the wife had cased her mind by a few sniffs and sneezes at the husband, the mother went on as she had begun, and Estelle

was no nearer her desired destruction than before.

Beside the opposition and the vigilance of Mrs. Clanciardo, the lovers met in secret as well as openly in society; for it would have been impossible to keep Estelle shut up in the house or to demand the social ostracism of Charlie Osborne. And as people with gardens will give tennis-parties and strawberry-feasts, the Clanciardes were forced to go to them with the rest, and take the consequences accruing. The alternative of leaving Kingshouse was also an impossibility. The domestic money market was too tight, and these last investments had restricted it yet more. Hence, the matter was one of those problems which even the most skilful diplomatist among matrons finds it hard to solve; and in the game of chess between love and prudence for the possession of the fair Estelle, no one could as yet foresee which would be the winner.

And indeed she was fair—taking the word as beauty, not colour. Somewhat above the middle height, straight as a palm tree but supple and slender as a willow branch, graceful as a fawn and almost as shy, she was one of those women whom poets write sonnets and musicians dedicate nocturnes; one of the women who make brave men braver still, and weak ones yet more self-indulgent. In her character the two main streams of womanly feeling ran side by side—the gentlest and most captivating reliance on those who were her superiors by age, sex, or condition; and the power of self-sacrifice for love. With these would be the maternal instinct when the time and occasion should come. She was woman—pure woman throughout. Body, heart, and mind were essentially feminine—feminine with all the strength and all the weakness of her sex and type. Weak to the strong and strong only for love, her love was of the kind which justifies itself and redeems its own excess—whole-hearted, passionate, unselfish and pure as flame is pure. Pliant before a firm will, quivering beneath a brutal hand, she yet had that kind of courage which could brave the world, the law, and the commandments should he who needed her, and whom she loved, find himself on the outside of virtuous convention. Submissive as another Lucy Ashton to authority, she had that power of revolt for the sake of another which belongs to a certain kind of gentle and tenacious nature—that power which not even the mother who bore her suspected, and which would be shown only when called forth by circumstances.

Meanwhile, as things were, she was to all appearance just a shy, gentle-mannered, pretty English girl with a foreign name and face; tightly held by her mother; neglected by her father; secretly worshipped by the one scantly-endowed vicar and the two impecunious curates; frankly admired by the rosy-gilled doctor; and frantically adored by Charlie Osborne, who saw in her his tenth Muse, his Egeria, his good angel, and the one absolute necessity of his life. And, save that she met her handsome admirer in secret and let him say things which would have made her mother furious had she heard them—more furious still had she heard the girl's replies—she obeyed that mother in all things—especially in the one grand essential of not marrying a man who could not keep even a servant, not to speak of a wife, and whose sole possessions were beauty, love, poetry, art, that delicacy of mind which belongs to the artistic temperament, and a constitution which, as yet free from disease, was decidedly fragile and on the line of something worse. Just so much grace of common sense had this young man, and no more—he did not urge Estelle to run away with him and begin life and housekeeping on that one hundred a year which was all his fixed income. Of course, in the future he would be a rich man, because a famous one. That was as certain as the rising of to-morrow's sun to him as that no eligible party was at hand to take up the silver thread, which she was resolved Charlie Osborne should not hold. The two money-lenders, the one scantly-endowed vicar, and the rosy-gilled doctor who made up the bachelordom of Kingshouse, were not a whit more desirable than this impudent Euromon and half soaking. And Caleb Stagg, the only son and heir of old Miles Stagg, the wealthy owner of Redhill and a former coal-miner, was impossible—at least to Estelle, if Mrs. Clanciardo would have shut her eyes and swallowed the gilded sausage whole. But the chapter of accidents has a long coda; and the chapter of accidents in the life-story of a lovely girl of twenty has only just begun.

"It is of no use, Estelle," Mrs. Clanciardo would say, with her high-pitched tone and petulant French intonation; "it is of no use to cry and make a miserable face. If you marry Charlie Osborne you will marry into misery; and I would rather see you dead than go through what I have gone."

"If only you would believe in his future, and let us wait!" pleaded Estelle, tears in her large soft eyes, which were like big brown moths lying within a white seashell.

"His future! What of it? Child, how fatally touched you are with these stupid English notions!" said Mrs. Clanciardo warmly. "What is this young man's future?"

"Fame," said Estelle; "and fame is always fortune."

"Fame from what? A picture hung by the Royal Academy—a drama accepted by a theatrical manager?—a poem published by an enterprising publisher?—and none of the three strong enough for that success which includes a book's book! That is the future of your handsome Joconde, who aims at eagles and does not bring down even sparrows. And out of these, where, I ask you, is the pot-a-few?"

"You misjudge him, mother; you do not give him credit for what he is or has," said Estelle, doing battle for her beloved with gentle persistency rather than overt spirit. "He can be great in anything he undertakes. He is great already; only the world has not yet recognised his genius, as it will later—as it must."

"My dear Estelle, you speak like an ignorant child as you are. Real genius is concentrated, and does not go squandering itself all abroad on everything alike," returned Mrs. Clanciardo sensibly enough. "A universal genius is a fated failure, and never rises beyond mediocrity. He is always close on to, but never actually touches excellence or success. He is always just the line short. The golden water which is to fill a dry trench must run through a broad pipe in one flow, and not filter through a dozen little pinholes like a watering-pot. And we want our dry trench filled, Estelle; your poor miserable father has taken care of that!"

Mrs. Clanciardo never lost an opportunity of impressing on Estelle the contemptible delinquencies of her father. To the jealous French mother the daughter ought to belong to her exclusively, and she did not approve of divided sympathies. Besides, that patriotism which meant opposition to the present condition of things counted for something in her jealousy; and the French woman born and bred and never sincerely naturalised, for all that she was as English in speech and manner as any one else, did her best to prevent her daughter from becoming too Britannic in her ideas. She had already imbibed that fatal poison of belief in love and romance which ruined half the English girls and shamed the common sense of half the mothers; and Mrs. Clanciardo's one great desire was to root out these pernicious weeds from Estelle's mind, and plant in their stead wise views of social life and a just estimate of the creature comforts to be got by money.

"Girls are so silly," she used to say, curling her thin mobile lips into that expressive line of illimitable contempt which only such lips can take. "As if love can pay the rent, or kisses feed the children!—as if the husband matters one jot so long as he has money and knows how to use it!—as if I would not rather have married a veritable gnome than this wretched creature of mine, with his six feet of folly and his barber's block of vanity!"

It did not mend matters that Mr. Clanciardo was secretly on his daughter's side in this matter of her young love, seeing that for peace' sake he was compelled to be openly on his wife's side. Taking his own disastrous way as he did in the manipulation of his funds, he made a point of following her fortunes and alienating her affections by refusing to listen to her advice, he made himself so supple, sweet, and tender in the home that, although he despised and disliked his heartily enough, he had no more power to find cause against him—on the side opposition for its own sake only—that he would have to crush an indubitable ball. His prompt acquiescence in her repudiation of Charlie Osborne as a husband for Estelle almost made her waver in her own decision. If George could see good reasons why it should not be, the chances were these reasons were bad, and the other side might have something to say for itself. But maternal prudence was stronger than even conjugal dissension; and after the wife had cased her mind by a few sniffs and sneezes at the husband, the mother went on as she had begun, and Estelle

was no nearer her desired destruction than before.

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taken on his own square shoulders, he came to it unprepared by training or even by anticipation; and now, with his hundreds of thousands, he was never more than the minor in his Sunday clothes, well brushed up and with all the grim washed off, but with his heart in the ship and his interests on the bank. Naturally, however, he thought his money would do, if but little for himself, much for his son—more, indeed, than it would. Seeing where it had landed this, and that, and t'other, he thought that he, too, had but to command, and the social forces would obey. But he did not take into consideration the difference between himself as represented by his son, and those others who had brushed themselves up into passable imitations, if no art nor science ever yet discovered could make them the real thing. Miles was but the tinker in my lord's best bed; and the freaks of fortune are no more really metamorphic than those of great men. Sly may surround himself with costly luxuries, pillow his scrubby head on satin, eat dainties out of a golden plate, and splash his spurious fingers in rose-water afterwards. He may clothe his hirsute body in velvet and embroidery as fine as an emperor's—all the same, the rust of the pots and pans he had passed his life in tinkering will not leave his hands, and Plutus himself cannot make that silken purse we wot of out of a pigskin ear.

Unfortunately—or, perhaps, fortunately—who knows yet?—young Caleb had none of his father's not unnatural social ambition. Specially did he in no wise share the old man's wishes about marrying blood and founding a family. Lady Elizabeth Inchbold, the all but dowerless daughter of the all but ruined Earl of Kingshouse, was the mark at which old Miles aimed the shaft of his desire. If Caleb should accomplish that his father would settle well high all his fortune on the young people, and would withdraw with his wife from the neighbourhood of the county. He would content himself with the knowledge of the fact. He would not seek to share in its glory, nor even to see the splendour of its rays. In the midst of the coarse materialism of his nature lay this one little flower of love, this purest pearl of unselfishness. If Caleb would make himself the man he should be, and go in and win as he ought, he, and not Miles, should then be the millionaire, and not Miles, should be the great man of the county and the commander of the future.

But Caleb would as soon have gone into a lion's den as into the Dower House, where the earl and countess and their family lived in secret penance and public pride. The castle was let to one Mr. Hermann Schmidt, a stockbroker who knew both how to spend his money like a prince and make a bargain like Shylock, and who was at once a generous friend and a dangerous man with whom to do business. Old Miles never made the smallest doubt but that Lady Elizabeth would accept the golden bait as eagerly as a hungry trout would take a May fly. It was money that ruled the world, so far as he could see; and, without being personally purposed, he had an exaggerated sense of its value.

He was a man of a coarse, ripe, Rabelaisian kind of humour, to whom nothing in the whole world was sacred or forbidden. He had no more faith in humanity than the most gloomy pessimist who thinks he saves his own soul by calling those of others, well—nay saved. To him life was a jolly kind of comedy, where the fools were tricked and the wise men held their own and got more. He had no more faith in the world, the law, and the commandments should they could come along and blow the whole place about their ears. But even now, a romp with the kitchen-maid would be preferable to making up to Lady Elizabeth Inchbold at the Dower House, for all that she had nothing of the aristocrat about her save her name, her traditions, her self-respect, and her grace.

"Thou'rt never do no good, Caleb," his father

one day said to him, with an angry shrug of his stalwart shoulders.

"What use have it been to waste all this brass on the learning when thou'rt nought but a dommed fool at the end of it? Thy mother's no lady, and thes's no gent; and hang me if the money had not better go to make a hospital for dead jackasses than to such lily-livered spenders as you two."

Miles had often said the same thing before; but to-day he emphasized his disapprobation with stronger intonation; impelled thereto by the vexation that Caleb had refused to take up an invitation to a garden party at the vicarage—Mr. and Mrs. Stewart, the vicar and vicaress, being of that good and wholesome sort which likes to draw all society into the one golden net of kindly feeling, and therefore including young Caleb Stagg in their invitations.

"You know, father, that I do not care for these parties," said Caleb awkwardly. "They are not in my line, and I am never my own man in them."

He spoke with a better accent than his father, and in a more nicely modulated voice; but there was always the unmistakable provincial accent, and neither the clergyman nor the college had knocked the rustic out of him, to put in its place even the semblance of a gentleman.

"And thee doesn't make account of thy duty to me as brought thee up," said Miles. "What thy father wishes doesn't weigh so much as the tail-end of a mouse with thee. Thy father who has slaved for thee, and thought night and day of nought but thee and what would be for thy good—nought's nought better to do than flout and fear when he wants thee to hold up thy head as thou shouldst with the best."

"You know, father, I never mean to flout or fear you," said Caleb earnestly; "but I do not feel called on to go about among these people. They think themselves of another make of flesh and blood from us, and they don't care a jot for our money—got as it were, by a fluke and with such owners as we."

"Such owners as we! and what the dickens dost mean by that, jackanapes?" shouted Miles.

"Why, just this, father;—we are not gentlemen and we can't pretend that we are," said Caleb.

"Toots—oots, lad! Brass 'll gild a miner's pick till it is as fine as my lord's sword," said Miles, half in fun and half in anger. "The gentility at Kingshouse isn't far different from men and women elsewhere, I reckon; and a full purse goes as far, my lad, as those mouldy old coats of arms with nothing behind them but lean chains and family pride. Go thy ways, I tell thee. His upstairs, Caleb, like a good lad, and do to the vicarage thy best. And if thou bring me home a well-doing likely daughter-in-law, like that Lady Elizabeth yonder, I'd not care to call the King my uncle. And I'd set thee up in housekeeping so that the King shouldn't be put about to see thee."

With his stolid, silent, and of late years—when she could no longer keep herself awake by active sonnolent wife, old Miles was not so much roughly brutal as oppressive—coercing rather than tormenting, and not wishing in the least to torment. On the contrary, he meant to be kindly, and he was in truth as kindly as he knew how to be.

"She has been a good wife to me," he used to say when a little in his cups; "and what the expatriate—if I cannot make a lady of her I'll not let her feel the differ!"

He had no idea that his close grip and strong will had suffocated her, and that not all his broad laughter nor coarse jokes could bring back to life the feeble spark of individuality he had crushed out of her. His "Give me a bus, old lass," after he had mentally and metaphorically trampled on her, was on a par with his sovereign given to the man he had cuffed till he had lame.

The torn flesh none the worse gaped; the broken bone was none the less apart; and the bruise ached all the same—that golden ointment notwithstanding. So with Nancy. Kisses, jokes, laughter—what you will—nothing restored the broken will nor reanimated the destroyed spirit.

It was the same with his son, whom he loved better than his life, but whom he now rated like a hound for his want of character and energy, and now cursed for a rebel if he dared to say his soul was his own and he thought he had the best right to it. He wanted to see the young fellow take part in the life of the place and make his mark as a man of his means should. He would spare no expense if he could set him aside on the high horse of public power and favour; and he could not be made to see

CLIPPINGS FROM THE COMICS.

(From Punch.)

THE INDIAN MAID.—A bill before the Indian Legislature proposes to constitute cock-fighting an indictable offence. But is that pastime really so cruel as it is called? The cocks themselves like fighting, and, whilst living, they "live like fighting cocks."

A SENSE OF PROPORTION.—"Wa-wa-wa-wather fa-fa-ha-ha-hoggy, eh, Tom?"—"Rather foggy? Yes, but my dear Jack, you stammer ten times more in London than you did in Newcastle, even! How's that?"—"La-la-la-la-London's ta-ta-ta-times as ba-ba-ba-ba-ba-big a p-p-pace, I know!"

ADVICE TO SOCIALISTS AND COMMUNISTS.—"Act always on the square." Only, mind, not on Trafalgar-square.

LEGISLATION FOR THE SESSION.—Local government mustn't stop the way. Let there be one bill brought in for putting a stop to all such processions—including bodies of Salvationists tramping about on Sundays with tambourine girls and bands of music ("Music! ye gods!")—as have not received police permission for one occasion only. Another bill is wanted for dealing summarily with organ-grinders, street singers, and all other similar disturbers of the peace, so that if a householder, or some one acting as his agent, gives any of these nuisances into custody, a paper signed by him and the constable shall be sufficient to warrant a conviction. Two sovereigns fine for first offence, imprisonment with hard labour for second, and for the third perpetual banishment from England, with the last penalty of the law in case of their returning with the same deadly purpose in view, i.e., the destruction of the peace and quiet of her Majesty's subjects. Also wanted, a bill to fix certain spots outside a four-mile radius from Charing Cross, where any open-air public meetings may be held, of which the commissioners of police must receive at least a clear forty-eight hours' notice.

(From Puff.)

PROOF POSITIVE.—Aged Hibernian: Sure, an' I think Pat Rooney a very steady man.—Young Hibernian: Begorra, I never knew a steader at lowerin' a power o' whisky.

Mrs. Podmore wants to know whether a piece is likely to have a good run if the actors walk through their parts.

An ex-convict caught breaking into a house the other night plaintively observed to the policeman who arrested him, "Why couldn't you let me finish the job?" Poor, sensitive crib-cracker—a true artist, he sorrowed at an intended *chef d'œuvre* being wrecked by the rough interference of a common constable with no poetry in his nature.

A particularly pious American Quaker who was recently caught warbling a comic song, excused himself by asserting that his doctor had advised him to try a varied course of vocal gymnastics. "What would you like, my dear?" said an elderly critic to a young actress, as they stood together gazing into a pastrycook's shop-window. "A puff, of course, old ink-slinger," whispered the sweet soubrette.

(From Judy.)

THE GONS!—The "National" Gallery.—The six-penny place at Drury Lane Theatre, to be sure. Henry George, the Anarchist, has been offered twenty-five acres of land in Michigan, under the condition that he cultivates it. Henry isn't likely to take on. The fiery-headed agitator prefers begging to digging.

HOW TO WRITE A PANTOMIME.—(By an Author's Ghost.)—Find out what subject your manager wants to treat. Say it is "The Fair One with the Golden Beanstalk"; or, "James the Lady Killer and the Old Woman that Lived in the House that Jack Built." Purchase some ruled paper, also a pen, and a drop of ink. Then go to French's in the Strand, and buy all the pantomimes written on the same subject. Read them through. Order your "ghost" to make puns. If he can't, kick him. If that fails, ping lines out of copies bought. Introduce topical allusions: Did Bacon write Shakespeare? or, Did Shakespeare eat Bacon? Who was the writer? and, Who was the writer of the two? Procure a rhyming dictionary. Get excited. Swear. Chuck it up. Interview all the "principals," who implore you to help them. Hesitate. Blush (if possible). Say you'll be bluffed first. Knuckle down. After all the lines to please parties. This will result in pleasing nobody. Never mind. Make yourself miserable.

(From Moonshine.)

Mr. Blunt, in gaol, is reported to have discarded all attire one day last week except a blanket. Can Mr. Blunt, who is rather prone to a change, contemplate another desert? Is he about to abandon Mr. Gladstone and join Buffalo Bill?

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OVERHEARD IN OUR VILLAGE.—Impenitent Old Party (to young farmer): You might give a nice little dose of \$30,000, which was offered to him if he would run across the "millpond" to see one of the innumerable "leading citizens" in the States. He, however, was unwilling to undertake a journey that would place him out of reach of his illustrious patient at San Remo, even for a short time. He will, however, probably go a little out of his way in returning from Italy in order to call professionally at Barcelona.

I may say, by the way, that \$30,000 is, probably, the biggest thing in the way of a medical fee that has been heard of in our day. Sir Morell himself got \$1,050 for going to Cannes to see Mr. Stirling Crawford, and Dr. Hahn had the same amount for coming from Berlin to Mr. Montagu Williams. Sir Henry Thompson received \$2,000 (of which he returned half) for his attentions to poor old "Badinguet"; but these are "unconsidered trifles" compared with the fee Sir Morell Mackenzie has declined.

A locomotive has been sent by the King of the Belgians to Tangiers as a present to the Sultan of Morocco, a singularly inappropriate gift, considering that there is not a yard of railway or tram line within his dominions.

The French law is cruelly hard on foreign ladies who marry gay young Frenchmen without ascertaining that their husbands have previously obtained the consent of their papas. But the law has one good feature which our own might very well copy. When a marriage is pronounced void, or a husband has been convicted of bigamy, and the woman who has been wronged can show that she has acted in ignorance and good faith, her children may be declared legitimate. This has just been done in the case of the bigamous marriage of Lefèvre, the opera singer, with Miss Dumasday. Why should not the innocent victims of gentlemen with polygamous tastes be protected in the same way in this country?

"Well, now, Tom, what do you think of her?" asked an uncle, who had introduced an eligible. "She's not a bad sort of girl, uncle," responded Tom, "but is her—er—er—moral character perfect?" "Father don't make brass at all, that ain't his trade," replied Tom. "You know well enough what I mean! What does he get on the Saturday?" "What's he got on Saturday? Why, tight to be sure!"

A suggestion for Berry's coat of arms, with apologies to the College of Heralds—Two posts, standant, one beam crossant, one rope pendant, one murderer at the endant, on a platform wooden. Supporters, two warders. Motto, Nolens volens.

Infatuated Son: She is the most charming girl in the world, mother, but I thought I would speak to you before I asked her to be my wife.—Mother

(anxiously): I know nothing, whatever against her, my boy. The only question is, is she fitted for a wife?—Father (sotto voce): I should say the question was whether she was fitted for a husband!

SOCIETY GOSSIP.

(From St. Stephen's Review.)

It may seem foolish to reiterate facts, but it is as well to keep the truth before the public mind when the last resource of Gladstonian civilisation appears to be to tell plenty of lies and stick to them. Well, then, in the first place, Ministers are absolutely confident in the strength of their position. There is no sort of trouble in which the Liberal Unionists. The Government is, in fact, far stronger than it was a year ago. No changes are in contemplation, and a session of beneficial British legislation is almost assured.

It seems that the superstition that no marriage can be a happy one unless the bride has one hair of every member of her family sewn into the lining of her wedding-gown is no longer a monopoly of the French. A young lady was married at St. Jade's, Kensington, a few days ago, who had a general collection of hair—even including one from the favourite pet dog—made, and attached as much importance to it as to the fifty yards of material, exclusive of lace, which her French maid brought from Paris for the wedding dress.

This being leap year, the Chicago *Inter-Ocean* has published a list of over 500 names of eligible bachelors living in that city. To still further help the unmarried ladies, a short description accompanies each name, which sets forth the matrimonial advantages of the owner. Some excellent hints are also given as to how to set to work. "However," says this enterprising journal, "timid unmarried men need not jump at the conclusion that susceptible maidens are going to fall over each other in a mad race to take advantage of the privilege that leap year is popularly supposed to bring with it."

(From the World.)

The original arrangement for the Queen's visit to Italy was that her Majesty should go to San Remo about the middle of March, and the Grand Duke of Hesse and Princess Irene were to have met her there, and also the Duchess of Edinburgh and Princess Louis of Battenberg. Princess Beatrice and Prince Henry of Battenberg were to go from San Remo to Florence, where they were to stay at the Villa Palmieri, the residence of the Dowager Lady Crawford. These plans, however,

have been entirely changed. The Queen will leave England a month earlier than the date that was first fixed, starting from Osborne, and she will only pay a passing visit to San Remo, and her place of sojourn is to be Florence, where the Villa Palmieri is being prepared for her reception, and a neighbouring residence has been engaged for the suite and servants.

The villa which the Queen is building in the grounds of Claremont is not a "dower house," as has been absurdly stated, but it is to become the residence of the Duchess of Albany and her children, and is to be ready for their occupation by October next. Claremont is a very fine house, and it contains several splendid rooms; but the late Duke of Albany declared that it was too expensive a place for him to keep up, even on £26,000 a year, and it is therefore apparent that it must be altogether beyond the means of the duchess, who has barely £28,000 a year. The gardens, which are very extensive and costly, were most admirably maintained, when the Orleans family occupied Claremont, but for a long time past they have been worked on economical principles. The mansion is to be closed when the duchess leaves it, and it will merely be occupied by three or four of the Queen's servants. It was first intended that the Duchess of Albany should remove to Frogmore; but that is a very damp and unhealthy place, and there might be complications from her residence there, as Frogmore is Crown property, and officially it is regarded as forming a portion of Windsor Castle.

Birds, children, and cabmen have lost a good friend in the fine old citizen who has just died with a peaceful rather than appalling suddenness. Nor will the vacancy he has left in the ranks of benevolence be less seriously felt by many more of God's creatures, biped and quadruped, with all of whom he showed the sincerest sympathy. To the pigeons of the Guildhall he was a perfect Walter von der Volgweid, feeding them with accustomed largesse of dainty bread-crumbs from his ample skirt of pockets. It is a good sign of a man's nature that he is fond of children; it is a still better sign that they should be fond of him: and to see Sir R. Carden help to strip a Christmas tree, or gather round him a crowd of like maskers at a Mansion House juvenile ball, was indeed a cheery sight. Among the children of the poor he was, if anything, more popular, and at a workhouse treat at Southall or elsewhere encouraged many acts of playful freedom that would have made a Bumble of the bad old times quake and turn pale.

The story is dramatic in its way. His father was a barrister in good practice, and married Jemima Walter, daughter of the first and sister of the second John Walter, proprietors of the *Times*. This paper had but little changed its style and title, having been at one time known as the *Daily Universal Register*. At the wedding breakfast of Mr. Carden and Miss Walter, the father of the bride rose and proudly endowed her, as a marriage gift, with a column of advertisements in the young rising journal. The particular column was the "agony column," and it is said that the family lawyer, who was present, but had not been consulted in this important matter, was not well pleased with Mr. Walter's impulsive generosity. Whatever the column in question was worth at that time, its commercial value must have vastly increased as the years rolled on, and little Master Robert came into the world proprietor of an undeveloped gold mine.

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Meers, Graham and Burns were well defended. It is perfectly right that those who talk loudly before the fact should talk quietly in face of the consequences. Even a martyr should get off when he can; it is all proper and quite wriggly.

OVERHEARD IN OUR VILLAGE.—Impenitent Old Party (to young farmer): You might give a nice little dose of \$30,000, which was offered to him if he would run across the "millpond" to see one of the innumerable "leading citizens" in the States. He, however, was unwilling to undertake a journey that would place him out of reach of his illustrious patient at San Remo, even for a short time. He will, however, probably go a little out of his way in returning from Italy in order to call professionally at Barcelona.

I may say, by the way, that \$30,000 is, probably, the biggest thing in the way of a medical fee that has been heard of in our day. Sir Morell himself got \$1,050 for going to Cannes to see Mr. Stirling Crawford, and Dr. Hahn had the same amount for coming from Berlin to Mr. Montagu Williams. Sir Henry Thompson received \$2,000 (of which he returned half) for his attentions to poor old "Badinguet"; but these are "unconsidered trifles" compared with the fee Sir Morell Mackenzie has declined.

A locomotive has been sent by the King of the Belgians to Tangiers as a present to the Sultan of Morocco, a singularly inappropriate gift, considering that there is not a yard of railway or tram line within his dominions.

The French law is cruelly hard on foreign ladies who marry gay young Frenchmen without ascertaining that their husbands have previously obtained the consent of their papas. But the law has one good feature which our own might very well copy. When a marriage is pronounced void, or a husband has been convicted of bigamy, and the woman who has been wronged can show that she has acted in ignorance and good faith, her children may be declared legitimate. This has just been done in the case of the bigamous marriage of Lefèvre, the opera singer, with Miss Dumasday. Why should not the innocent victims of gentlemen with polygamous tastes be protected in the same way in this country?

"Well, now, Tom, what do you think of her?" asked an uncle, who had introduced an eligible. "She's not a bad sort of girl, uncle," responded Tom, "but is her—er—er—moral character perfect?" "Father don't make brass at all, that ain't his trade," replied Tom. "You know well enough what I mean! What does he get on the Saturday?" "What's he got on Saturday? Why, tight to be sure!"

A suggestion for Berry's coat of arms, with apologies to the College of Heralds—Two posts, standant, one beam crossant, one rope pendant, one murderer at the endant, on a platform wooden. Supporters, two warders. Motto, Nolens volens.

Infatuated Son: She is the most charming girl in the world, mother, but I thought I would speak to you before I asked her to be my wife.—Mother

from a huge basket carried by Captain Herbert, who was got up most effectively as Father Christmas. The children and their parents were quite charmed with the "right Royal" manner in which they were treated, and the duke and duchess made themselves very popular by joining heartily in the games which were played in the gardens before tea.

AN ACTRESS'S ROMANCE.

(Detained in an Asylum.)

A young lady, who stated that she was an actress, playing at the Grand Theatre at the time of the fire, applied at the Westminster Police Court for advice respecting her husband, who, she said, was improperly detained in a private lunatic asylum, at the instance of his friends, who disapproved of their marriage. She was married as recently as the 19th of last December, and her husband some three or four weeks ago was drinking rather heavily and having little rest at night. No doubt he had a touch of delirium tremens, but this she contended did not justify his friends in taking him away from her and keeping him in Munster House Asylum at a cost, she understood, of five guineas a week. His relations said that he had married beneath him, and were anxious to keep them apart. They had also endeavoured to induce her to sign a paper to the effect that he was not in his right mind, at the time of the marriage ceremony, of which a doctor was one of the witnesses, and a lady friend in court another.

—Mr. D'Eyncourt: What is your husband?

—Applicant: He is a gentleman, and his friends are in an exceedingly good position.

—Some hints are also given as to how to set to work.

—However, says this enterprising journal,

—timid unmarried men need not jump at the conclusion that susceptible maidens are going to fall over each other in a mad race to take advantage of the privilege that leap year is popularly supposed to bring with it.

(From the World.)

This being leap year, the Chicago *Inter-Ocean* has

published a list of over 500 names of eligible

bachelors living in that city. To still further

help the unmarried ladies, a short description

accompanies each name, which sets forth the

matrimonial advantages of the owner. Some

excellent hints are also given as to how to set to work.

—However, says this enterprising journal,

—timid unmarried men need not jump at the

conclusion that susceptible maidens are going to

fall over each other in a mad race to take advantage of the privilege that leap year is popularly supposed to bring with it.

THE GARDEN.

(WRITTEN SPECIALLY FOR "THE PEOPLE.")

Early Strawberries.

Plants in pots with well-ripened crowns may be

started now in a night temperature of fifty-five to

sixty degrees. If the plants are not well estab-

lished keep them till after the blossoms are set in

a cooler house. Keep the roots of the plants in a

moist healthy state, but do not over water. When

the blossoms begin to open, use the camel's hair

pencil among the blossoms every day when the

pollen is dry. About eleven or twelve o'clock in

the forenoon is the best time. When enough

fruits are set for a crop pinch or cut off all

THE THEATRES. AVENUE.

The centenary performance of "The Old Guard" at the Avenue, on Monday last, proved, by its exhilarating effect upon the audience, that the vitality of Messrs. Flanquette and Farnie's merry opera—conducted on the occasion by the composer himself—is by no means exhausted, but still maintains its attractiveness, despite the unwelcome circumstance of Miss Phyllis Broughton having been compelled through indisposition to withdraw from the cast.

CRITERION.

The comic disagreements, ultimately reconciled, of two British couples sojourning at Mentone supply the not very fresh or interesting materials of a new comedy-drama in one act, which now precedes the "Two Roses" at the Criterion. The curious title of the little piece, "Why Women Weep," is justified by one of the wives crying for diamonds, and getting them from her husband; and the other shedding tears over the tendency of her lord and master, resolutely restrained by her, to gamble away his money at the "tables." As represented by Miss Norreys and Miss Paget as the two wives, Messrs. Sidney Brough and Edward Emery as their respective husbands, and Mr. G. Giddens as a German waiter, the piece, rather by the bright and clever way in which it was acted, than through its any intrinsic quality of its own, was well received. Miss Norreys afterwards exhibited her sprightly humour for the first time as Lottie, one of the "Two Roses," in Mr. Albery's delightful comedy, which audiences never seem to tire.

TERRY'S.

With Mr. Edward Terry moving the audience to hearty laughter as a tragedian, it is no wonder that "The Woman Hater" has reached its fiftieth representation. This event, which occurred on Tuesday night, was signalled by the production of a new comic opetta as "front piece," entitled "A Shower of Blacks," written by Messrs. A. Shirley and W. Parke, to music composed by Mr. E. Buccalossi, in which Messrs. Alfred Bishop, T. P. Haynes, W. Calvert, and Miss A. Aubrey succeeded in diverting the audience by their vocal and humorous efforts for the forty minutes preceding the leading feature of the entertainment. Although without any special claim to novelty, the new lever de rideau was acclaimed as a success.

FRENCH PLAYS.

Andran's sparkling opera, "La Mascotte," which during the past week has taken the place of "La Grande Duchesse" at the Royalty, gave evident pleasure to the audience, presented, as it was, with pleasing vocal ability combined with lively humour in the leading parts by Mdlle. Mary Albert, M. Morlet, Messrs. Dekernel, Carini, Feroumont, and Mdlle. Leutz. In view, however, of certain of the incidents and the dialogue which serve to point them, it is, perhaps, just as well that "La Mascotte" is played in French rather than plain English.

THEATRICAL INTELLIGENCE.

The sensational novel, "The Mystery of a Hansom Cab," is being dramatised by Mr. Arthur Law for the Princess's Theatre. The date assigned for the opening night of the August Daly Company of Comedians from New York at the Gaiety is the 25th of April. A revival, with elaborate scenery and correct costumes, of Shakespeare's "Taming of the Shrew" will be the most prominent item of their productions. The lamentable attack of gout which for weeks past has deprived the London stage and his own theatre of the services of Mr. J. L. Toole, not only defers the long-promised production of Mr. and Mrs. Merivale's new comedy, but threatens to close the genial comedian's theatre, the customary fortnight's notice to end the season having been officially given to the members of his company. The cause, not less than its effect, will be matter of sincere and sympathetic regret to playgoers. At an Olympic matinée, to be given on the 16th of February, will be tested a new farcical comedy, to be called "His Romance," adapted from the German of Herr M. Klapp. A tender for the building of the Lyric Theatre, to be erected near the corner of Shaftesbury Avenue, has been accepted by Mr. H. J. Leslie. The new playhouse, which, with its site, will cost £50,000, is to be finished ready for its opening early in September. Mr. Irving, interviewed at the Chicago theatre during the "waits" in the performance of "Faust," has, speaking in the ironical vein of Mephistopheles, played the devil with the Donnelly cryptogram asserting the Baconian authorship of Shakespeare's plays, by mocking with the sardonic ridicule it naturally incites this absurdly effusive outcome of bombastic flatulence and oracular conceit. Mr. W. Archer, in his article upon "The Anatomy of Acting," in the current number of "Longman's Magazine," needs must shock all persons of good taste and proper feeling by divulging the most sacred personal sorrows of actors and actresses, in order to show the effect produced by the really painful emotions thus aroused upon their simulations of anguish on the stage. The references in this connection to the losses by death sustained by Mrs. Kendal and Mrs. Bancroft are simply revolting. The decease of the veteran Parisian dramatist, M. Labiche, has occurred during the past week. This fertile stage humorist has caused hearty laughter in England as well as France by his "Voyage de Monsieur Perrichon," adapted by Mr. Merivale, under the title of "Peacock's Holiday," by his "Un Cheapeau de Paille d'Italie," anglicised in Mr. Gilbert's "Wedding March," and other pieces rendered familiar to playgoers under the titles of "Ourselves" and "The Nabob," by Mr. Burnand; "Crutch and Toothpick," by Mr. G. R. Sims; and "A Phenomenon in a Smock Frock," by the late Charles Mathews. The new play of "Wedlock," dramatised by Mrs. Campbell Praed, assisted as regards the construction by Mr. Richard Lee, from the lady's novel, "The Bond of Wedlock," is in active rehearsal at the Opera Comique. The powerful cast includes with Mrs. Bernard-Beere as the heroine, Messrs. Henry Neville, Leonard Boyne, and Marius, with the Misses Laura Linden and Fanny Coleman. At the next performance of the Dramatic Students, to be given early in February, "The Taming of the Shrew" will be played.

EXTRAORDINARY SHOOTING AFFRAY IN BIRMINGHAM.

An extraordinary shooting case came before the Birmingham stipendiary magistrates the other day. Two police-constables chased a young man, named Bridgwater, into his father's house. Here they were violently assaulted by the father and his two sons, the former calling for his revolver. It was alleged that when he obtained this, he deliberately fired twice at the police-constables, the second shot entering Police-constable Wark's left cheek and fracturing his jaw. Old Bridgwater then again pointed his revolver, but one of the officers struck him on the head, felling him to the ground. It was also alleged that the Bridgwaters, in assaulting the officers, made use of the butt-end of a gun, a shovel, and a broomstick. The defence was that the father mistook the constables, who were in plain clothes, for thieves, and that the pistol went off accidentally in the struggle that took place. The father and his two sons were committed for trial, as was also Police-constable Wark on a charge of assaulting Bridgwater senior. The magistrate remarked that it was the most painful case he had ever heard, in view of the deliberate perjury committed on one side or the other.

RABIES IN RICHMOND PARK.

At the Richmond Petty Sessions on Wednesday, the official veterinary inspector of the district reported that rabies had again broken out among the deer in Richmond Park. No other case has been reported since the 24th of September. It was stated that the deer were still isolated, and much surprise was expressed at this further outbreak, which it is feared, may be extended.

SEQUEL TO A DIVORCE SUIT.

In the Court of Appeal, the Master of the Rolls and Lords Justices Fry and Lushon gave judgment in the case of Wilson v. Glossop. The action was brought in the Leeds County Court to recover the sum of £20 for forty weeks' maintenance of the wife of the defendant. The defendant pleaded his wife's adultery, and it appeared that in a suit for divorce instituted by him the jury found that he had connived at his wife's adultery. The Divisional Court, before whom the case came on appeal, consisting of Justices Mathew and Cave, upheld the judgment in favour of the plaintiff, on the ground that where a husband had connived at his own dishonour no wrong had been done him, and that he was not entitled to set up his wife's adultery as a defence to an action for her maintenance. Their lordships dismissed the appeal on the same grounds that had been relied upon in the court below, and in doing so an animadversion very severely upon the conduct of the defendant in having, in the first place, connived at his wife's adultery, and in the second of having sought to make that adultery an excuse for turning her destitute upon the world. The appeal was dismissed, with costs.

AMERICAN DIVORCES.

In the Divorce Division on Tuesday, Sir James Hannon delivered a reserved judgment in the case of Thompson (otherwise Turner) v. Thompson. The petition was that of the wife, Mrs. Georgiana Turner, a British subject domiciled in England, for a divorce from Mr. Charles Peter Thompson, a citizen of the United States, and connected with the marine service, on the ground of incapacity. The marriage took place at St. Jude's, Southwark, on the 7th of November, 1872. They lived together in England until January, 1873, after which they went to America. In February, 1873, she instituted proceedings in the United States for a decree dissolving the marriage, and was successful. Afterwards she returned to England, and instituted proceedings here for the purpose of having her marriage declared null and void. Mr. H. B. Deane appeared for her, and when the case came before Mr. Justice Butt, he raised the question of jurisdiction, contending that if the marriage was absolutely dissolved by the decree of the United States, then there existed no marriage between the parties upon which this court could be called to pronounce any opinion, his lordship directing that the case be argued by the Queen's Proctor. The arguments were heard before Sir James Hannon, who reserved his judgment. Sir James Hannon now said he was of opinion that this court had no jurisdiction, in the sense that the marriage was duly and absolutely dissolved by the decree of the United States court, and therefore there was no marriage existing between the parties to be dissolved declared null and void by this court. The husband was domiciled in the United States, and after his marriage the petitioner took up her permanent abode in that country, and completely acquired a domicile there. Her suit, consequently, would be dismissed.

HE DIDN'T LIVE IN ARCADIA.

At Lambeth Police Court, James Seymour, 28, was charged on remand with burglariously attempting to break and enter the dwelling-house, 137, Walworth-road, occupied by Mr. William Mole. The prisoner was caught in the act of breaking into the house. His lodging in Gurney-street, having been ascertained, a visit was paid there, and in a room occupied by him a silver-plated teapot, plated spoons, forks, and other articles found, which had since been identified as forming portion of the proceeds of housebreaking in another case. The prisoner was now further charged with being concerned with others not in custody in breaking and entering the dwelling-house 143, Walworth-road, on the 9th January, 1887, and stealing therein various articles, valued at upwards of £100, the property of Michael Mac—Enna Mac said she was the wife of Michael Mac, a musical hall artiste. In December, 1886, she went with him to Dublin. They left the house without any person in it. On the 9th January, 1887, a telegram was received, and they returned home and found the place had been entered by thieves, and property to the value of £100 taken. She now identified the teapot, spoons, &c., produced as part of the stolen property. Lilian Zucker said she resided at the house adjoining Mr. Mac's. In January last year, in the morning, she noticed a man she now identified as the prisoner standing near Mr. Mac's gate. Two other men came up with a barrow, and then all three went into the house by the front door. Two men not in custody afterwards brought out large baskets and put them on the barrow. The prisoner stood looking on, and all three then went away. Police-constable 322 L stated that whilst on duty on the morning of the 9th of January, 1887, he was informed by the last witness as to men being in Mr. Mac's house. He went there, and saw the front door of Mr. Mac's house open, and the prisoner and two other men putting things upon a barrow. He said, "What is the meaning of this at this time of the morning?" and the prisoner replied, "It's all right, policeman, I am one of the Macs. I'm Michael Mac—I have been called to go away in the country in a hurry." Witness asked if he knew that the back window and shutters were unprotected, and the prisoner replied, "I know. We have left the house six or seven months at a time." Witness then went back to the next house, and when he returned found prisoner and his companions had gone, as well as the barrow. Mr. Biron (with surprise): What do you mean?—Witness: They had bolted. (Laughter.)—Mr. Biron: Constable, do you think you live in Arcadia?—Witness: No, your worship. Mr. Biron committed the prisoner for trial.

FOURTEEN PERSONS KILLED.

A wooden lodging-house, with thirty occupants, at Tower, Minnesota, caught fire at two a.m. on Sunday, while all were asleep. The thermometer stood at 40deg. below zero. Fourteen persons were killed by the flames; the others escaped half naked, several being severely burnt and frost-bitten.

THE INFANT KING OF SPAIN.

A Madrid telegram states that the saint's day of the infant king was observed there as a close holiday, and for the first time since the death of the late monarch the customary official reception and banquet took place at the palace. So large and brilliant a concourse as that at the reception has seldom been seen on a similar occasion. The members of the diplomatic body almost without exception were present, commissioners from both Chambers of the Legislature presented congratulatory addresses, and besides the Cabinet-Ministers almost the whole of the official world attended. The infant king was seated on the right hand of the regent. A banquet was given, for which more than hundred invitations were issued. Another correspondent states that the little king, who was present, cried during the ceremony.

THREEPENCE LEFT.

At Gloucester Police Court on Wednesday, Frederick Slatter, a clerk, respectfully connected in the city, was sent to goal for six months for embezzling the money of his employers, Messrs. Wheeler and Sons, shipmen. He was in receipt of £350 a year, and had, besides, been treated generously by his employers. By ingeniously "cooking" the accounts, he robbed them of nearly £300, and then absconded. He was arrested in Oxford, with threepence in his pocket, all that remained of the proceeds of his robbery.

FREAKS OF A MAD BULL:

Considerable excitement and alarm were caused in Bolton on Tuesday by the freaks of a mad bull, which broke loose from its stall at a farm in an out district. The animal, which roamed about for over four hours, tossed several children, one girl, named Whittle, being carried on the infuriated beast's horns several hundred yards before she could be rescued. Her injuries are of a serious character, but the other children were not much hurt. The bull was finally captured with the aid of ropes.

BREACH OF PROMISE CASE: £100 DAMAGES.

At the Middlesex Sheriff's Court on Thursday, before the under-sheriff (Mr. Burchell) and a jury, the case of Daisy Alice Garlick v. Arthur Stanley Hodges, an action for breach of promise of marriage, in which judgment had been allowed to go by default, came on for the assessment of damages. Mr. Cooper Wyld appeared for the plaintiff; and the defendant was not represented by counsel. Mr. Wyld, in opening the case, said it was one that perhaps was unprecedented, even in that court. The defendant resided with his parents, at No. 146, Belsize-road, St. John's Wood, and was described as manager to a firm of stockbrokers in Angel-court, City. The breach, in respect of which the action was brought, took place last year, the promise having been made in July. The plaintiff, a young lady of prepossessing appearance, is about 24 years of age. In early life she had the misfortune to lose her mother, and at the age of 16, her father, who had occupied an important position in a brewery, died and left her an orphan. Under these circumstances, and being left penniless, she had to seek a situation. She first went to the Langdon Hotel, near Sydenham; afterwards going to the Greyhound Hotel, Hampton Court, and thence taking a better situation at the Globe Restaurant, Finsbury Pavement. While there she made the acquaintance of the defendant, who was in the habit of frequenting the house. He was a good-looking young man, and represented that he was in the employ of a firm of stockbrokers. At first he made the young lady presents of gloves and flowers, and subsequently made her more handsome gifts. He represented that his father was holding a good position in the City, and that the family kept their carriage. There was a large amount of correspondence, which gradually, as time wore on, became warmer and warmer. At first he addressed her as "Dear Miss Garlick;" then as "Dear Daisy;" and eventually as "My darling Daisy." These letters indicated nothing beyond an honourable love, and the engagement lasted for half a year. The defendant said he was always thinking of the plaintiff, referred to visits to Brighton, and eventually made a formal promise to marry, saying that he could lay down and die for the plaintiff. He further stated that his father was about to put down £2,500 so as to enable him to go into partnership with his employer, and that he had insured his life for the same amount. This, said the learned counsel, showed that the defendant meant business. On one occasion the defendant called at the restaurant late at night, and next day he wrote admitting that he had taken too much "Scotch," and he thought he must have been "boozed," and had made a fool of himself. He subsequently broke off the engagement. At a late stage of the hearing the defendant put in an appearance, and on entering the witness-box declined to state the reasons why he broke off the engagement; but said that he was in receipt of only £20 a year, with a small commission. His father denied that he kept a carriage, and said that his income from commercial sources was but £250 to £400 a year. He called on the plaintiff to explain this, and told her that, so far from his son being able to keep a wife, he was unable to keep himself. The learned under-sheriff, in summing up, advised the award of moderate damages, and the jury eventually found a verdict for £100.

UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF MACHINERY.

At Westminster Police Court on Thursday, Frederick Tofts, a young man, living at 43, Eaton-terrace, Eaton-square, was charged before Mr. Partridge with committing a very violent assault on a young woman employed by his mother as housemaid at the above address. The prosecutrix, Kate Barclay, said her mistress kept a lodging-house, and the prisoner lived at home with her. At times, he was very strange in his manner, and on Wednesday evening he threw a kettle of boiling water across the room. She was making toast at the time, and asked him what he meant. Without making any reply he attacked her, knocked her down, and kicked her in the eye, causing a wound which bled a great deal and gave her much pain. The prisoner told the magistrate that for a long time he had been under the influence of machinery, which was worked next door. He felt sure that the servant assisted to work the machinery—James Coles, servant to a gentleman staying in the house, said he heard the prosecutrix screaming and rushed to her assistance. She was lying on the kitchen floor, bleeding profusely from her face, and the prisoner was standing over her in a threatening attitude. Mr. Partridge: The prisoner is not in his right mind.—Witness: No, sir, I think not. He frequently walks up and down in front of the house, opens doors unmercifully, and smashes crockery on the ground.—Constable 67 B said the prisoner had terribly annoyed the ladies living next door, No. 45, Eaton-terrace, by knocking at the door, looking in the windows, and making use of bad language.—Mr. Partridge said he would remand the prisoner, so that the doctor could see him in the House of Detention. The prisoner, as he was removed, said he should not be kept under the influence of machinery all the time.

THE SHAM PRIEST AND THE PRETTY BARMADA.

Particulars have reached Berlin respecting the proceedings of a man who has just been arrested at Dantzig, and who is believed to be a clerical impostor known to the police in almost every country in the world. The man gives the name of the Rev. Joseph Eber, and alleges that he was formerly a professor of theology at Chicago. He arrived at Dantzig on the 25th of December last, and took lodgings in the best hotel in the town. He soon received an appointment at one of the Catholic churches, where he frequently celebrated mass and received the customary stipend. He would, in all probability, have had a successful career in Dantzig had he not formed the acquaintance of a pretty Polish barmaid, with whom he went into private lodgings. From that time he led a free life, and quite disregarded the decorum which should characterise a priest. He even carried his effrontery to the length of taking his mistress to the chapel in which he used to officiate, and introducing her to the priests as his convert. Ultimately Eber attracted the attention of the police, and he was arrested on the double charge of celebrating mass without a license and fraudulently collecting the stipend of a clergyman. The investigating judge decided that there was not sufficient evidence before him to sustain the charge, and Eber was set at liberty, only to be arrested almost immediately on a fresh warrant. He was lodged in the House of Detention, where he remains pending the result of inquiries. His photograph has been taken with and without his cassock, and copies have been sent to every European capital and to America. Eber offers all information as to his antecedents, but he is a man of very superior education, and well versed in classic and modern literature. In his possession was found a handbag containing a cassock and a number of scientific works in the English language. He is said to remind the Dantzig folk of a clerical impostor who masqueraded in their district some years ago under the name and style of Cardinal Alberoni.

A LADY CHARGED WITH LIBEL.

At Leeds on Thursday, Elizabeth Whitwell, wife of a manufacturer, was charged with having libelled three persons, two of whom were relatives. In one case she wrote that her brother-in-law, a married man, had spent a lot of his time in the company of women of ill-fame, and in another she wrote to her niece, and described her and her family as a set of disgraceful beings, foul-mouthed, uncultivated, respected by none, and hated by everyone. It was denied that there was any truth in the allegations. The prisoner was committed for trial, as was also Police-constable Wark on a charge of assaulting Bridgwater senior. The magistrate remarked that it was the most painful case he had ever heard, in view of the deliberate perjury committed on one side or the other.

RHEUMATISM cured by COLMAN'S Concentrated MUSTARD OIL.

Sold by all Druggists and Chemists, at a per bottle.—(Advt.)

THE LADY WHO HAD A FORTUNE COMING.

Margaret Annie Prince, of Bolton, was brought up at the police court on Thursday, on remand, charged with fraudulently obtaining £50 from Joseph Dutton, of Bolton, in November last. A brief outline of the case has already appeared in the *People*. It was stated that the prisoner had obtained upwards of £2,000 from different people by representing that she was heiress to £1,700,000, and would render them independent on attaining her wealth. There were eight distinct charges proceeded with, involving a total of £1,500, and divided into sums varying in amount from £1 to £500. Some of the prosecutors were people in good positions and others in poor circumstances. The court was densely crowded. Mr. Hall, the borough prosecutor, conducted the case; and the prisoner was undefended. Mr. Hall said the practice of the prisoner was to produce letters purporting to entitle her to enormous fortunes, and asking for small advances to cover law costs, promising thousands of pounds in return. He had 200 such in his possession. When doubts were raised she wrote in a religious strain, and told her dupes to cast their doubts on Jesus. The money appeared to have been spent in extravagant living and driving about. Sophia Knowles, a washerwoman, said the prisoner had obtained all her savings and induced her to borrow money on the strength of the letter referred to, and the witness was destitute. Elizabeth Primes said the prisoner was in the habit of going to her house to change her clothes. They had been out driving in waggonettes together. The prisoner had given her a number of presents, consisting of jewellery and dress materials. Mr. William Rowlandson, gentleman, of Ainsdale, said Mary Rowlandson, of Akay Lodge, Sedburgh, from whom the letters put in purported to come, was his sister, but the writing was not hers. The accused might or might not be his niece. A woman named Fiss said the prisoner had spent about £100 in her company in enjoyment. She accompanied her to Sedburgh, where the supposed aunt refused to see her. Witness then found out that the prisoner was untruthful, as she had represented Akay Lodge as a grand mansion, at which the Duke of Rutland, the Bishop of Oxford and Lichfield, and other notable persons visited, whereas it was only an ordinary residence. A cabinman, named Davenport, said prisoner had paid him nearly £200 in a few months, but she had borrowed £20 from him since. Another witness stated the prisoner told her she had visited Mr. Gladstone at Hawarden, and that her family had stayed with the Duke of Rutland. The prisoner was committed for trial.

HIS SALARY WAS INSUFFICIENT.

An Underpaid Governor and Ambassador.

At the London Bankruptcy Court on Thursday, a meeting was held before Mr. Registrar Hazlitt for the public examination of Lord Loftus, the late governor of New South Wales. The bankrupt applied to pass upon accounts showing gross debts £62,200, of which £22,491 was secured, and assets nil. Mr. Howell appeared for the official solicitor; Mr. G. Mayor Cooke and Mr. A. E. Sydne and others appeared in the case for the creditors. By Mr. Howell: I have been in her Majesty's service exactly fifty years, and attribute my failure to my not having received adequate salary to meet the expenses of the offices I have held. I have a pension of £1,700 a year. I held the office of governor of New South Wales

THE CAREER OF A SCOUNDREL.

Elopement and Betrayal.
A Daughter Lost and Found.

On Saturday we received the particulars of the operations of a scoundrel, who, in the disguise of a gentleman, has been in the habit in recent years of spreading ruin and misery through many a respectable home. This man, against whom we are to warn the public, is of good birth and pretends to be a clerk in holy orders. He is a fellow of one of the colleges, but since the termination of his collegiate career has lived the life of an adventurer. Up to 1886 he was not brought prominently before the notice of those whose duty it is to legally investigate such matters. It is a fact, however, that from time to time complaints were made to various solicitors with regard to the nefarious schemes of this individual, but owing to the fact that there was a difficulty in tracing him no legal proceedings were taken. In the early part of 1887, however, this man, whose right name cannot be given, owing to the variety of aliases which he assumed, turned up at a southern seaside resort. He lodged at a private boarding house, one of the best in the place, and by means of insidiously polite conduct gained the confidence of those by whom he was surrounded. Amongst the family to whom the place belonged was the daughter of the landlady, a girl of 16. Suddenly the "curate" fell ill, and there was no more devoted nurse to him than this young girl. Some weeks elapsed before convalescence set in, and coincident with the recovery to health the landlady missed, all at once, both her lodger and her daughter. No tidings could be obtained of them for some time, until at last there came an announcement of their marriage and an appeal for money. This was sent to a post office, and then the correspondence ceased. Afterwards there came the intelligence that the clerical husband had become a private tutor, and had a number of pupils. Amongst the students was a youth, who is described by his friends as "backward." In order to accelerate the progress of this young man, the tutor suggested that he should accompany the young man to his home, and there supplement the daily lessons which he gave. The offer was accepted, and in a few days the "tutor" was recognised as a welcome visitor of the young man's family. Amongst those whom he met was another young girl of 17. Practising upon her those arts with which there is reason to believe he had betrayed the innocence of many young women before, he induced this young girl toelope with him. In the meantime his girl-wife had given birth to a child. Unknown to her, his visits to the house of his pupil continued; but suddenly the alarm was given that the girl had fled. Every inquiry was made as to the whereabouts of the absent pair, but no clue was gained until the deserted wife suddenly appeared with the child in her arms, guided by a letter which she had found amongst her husband's papers. After a wild-goose chase about the three kingdoms, a clue was found as to the whereabouts of the couple in Paris. In order to trace them more effectually a letter was sent, addressed "So-and-so, Pâtes Restantes, Paris" enclosing a remittance. The man intercepted this letter, duly presented himself, and obtained the money. He was instantly threatened with legal proceedings, and apprehending serious consequences with respect to his safety, returned the cash. The next device was to obtain an interview between the mother and father (who were in pursuit of their erring daughter) and this unfortunate girl. By a stratagem admission was gained to the suite of apartments which the guilty pair occupied, and the summons was given them to rise and admit the French police who were in attendance. Suddenly the bed-room door was opened and the girl advanced. Instantly the father dashed forward, and seizing his daughter by the waist, threw her into her mother's arms. Then he confronted the man, but owing to the presence of the police, the condign chastisement which he merited was not inflicted. The girl returned with her parents to England, and the "curate" was left either to embark upon fresh ventures of the kind, or to return to the arms of one of the many wives who were possibly mourning his absence. Since, however, this termination of the affair the man has had the remarkable impudence to threaten the father of the girl who was taken from him in Paris with an action for libel.

A FEMALE ADVENTURER.

An extraordinary case was heard before the Bolton magistrates last week. A married woman, named Margaret Ann Prince, residing in an out-district of the town, was charged with obtaining money under false pretences. It was stated that for some time past she had been representing that she was an heiress entitled to a fortune of £1,700,000, and she was now charged with having obtained from various people sums to the amount of over £2,000 upon the strength of these representations, and of so-called solicitors' letters. Over 100 letters were produced in court, all of which the prisoner admitted to have written. They were presumed to come from Hackney Hall, Jedburgh, and referred to the supposed fortune. The prisoner represented that when she got her fortune she would give, not cent per cent, but £20,000, £30,000, and £40,000, according to the sum borrowed. A remand was asked for, pending inquiries, which was granted.

IMPROVEMENTS AT ISLINGTON.

The Upper-street at Islington was formally opened last week to vehicular traffic after some months of stoppage owing to an improvement which has been carried out, and the general result of which is satisfactory. Numerous accidents and blocks in the traffic caused the vestry to petition the Board of Works to widen Upper-street, and although the Act of Parliament granting permission was passed five years ago, the works are only now completed. One benefit to the travelling public by the improvement is the long sweep of double lines of tramway from Highbury Station to the Angel, and when the new road from the latter point to Holborn is made, it will give one of the finest improvements yet carried out by the Metropolitan Board of Works in that part of London. The formal ceremony of opening was performed by the deputy-chairman of the Metropolitan Board and the members of the Islington highway Committee walking over the improved street, and the company then adjourned to the Cock tavern at Highbury, to join in a congratulatory feast.

A RUNAWAY PATIENT.

On Saturday morning a singular occurrence took place at St. Bartholomew's Hospital. A patient, said to be suffering from tumour on the brain, was removed from one ward to another, where there were better facilities for treating him. The removal was carried out satisfactorily and the patient placed in bed, but no sooner had the attendant turned his back upon the man with the object of getting some water to wash him, than the patient jumped out of bed, and, clad only in a night-shirt, ran out of the hospital building into the enclosed garden in the centre of the hospital premises. He made at once for the gate leading into West Smithfield, but, an alarm being raised, the officials gave chase, and succeeded in capturing the man as he was about to pass out into the street. He resisted his captors for some time, but, eventually, after a severe struggle, was overpowered and taken back to the ward.

We are requested to state that during the exhibition of her Majesty's jubilee presents the Bethnal Green Museum will be specially kept open on Wednesdays from 10 a.m. until 10 p.m., an admission fee of 6d. each person.

On Saturday information was forwarded to the East Surrey coroner of the death of Matilda Lizzie Tuffield, aged 2 months, the daughter of deaf and dumb parents, living at 20, Mann-street, Walworth, who was found suffocated on her mother's arm.

HIGHWAY ROBBERIES AT THE EAST-END.

Whitechapel Ruffians.

At the Thames Police Court last week, Charles Wilks, 20, was charged with being concerned with others not in custody in attempting to steal from the person. — Edward Morrison, merchant, of Grafton-street, Mile End, said at eight o'clock on the 17th inst. he was walking along what is termed The Mount, Whitechapel, just by the hospital, and as he was crossing the road seven men surrounded him. He was knocked down, one of them tripping him up, and he put his hand on his watch to save it. In answer to Mr. Lushington, the witness said one of the gang tried to steal his (witness's) watch before he was knocked down. When he got up he missed his spectacles, and looked for them, but was unable to find them. He could not identify the prisoner as one of the men who attacked him. — James Humphrey, a dairyman, of St. Peter's-street, Cambridge-road, Mile End, said: At eight o'clock on Tuesday night I was coming along Mile End-road about twenty yards behind the prosecutor, and saw several men outside the Wine House tavern, and seeing them there several times before I watched them. I saw them throw the prosecutor on to his back, and then run away down Turner-street, Commercial-road. The prisoner I recognise as the last one of the seven who were running away. I asked the prosecutor if he had lost anything, and he said, "Only my spectacles." I saw the prisoner the previous night at Leeman-street, and picked him out from amongst others. — Police-constable King deposed to the arrest of the prisoner, and said a gentleman in court had been robbed of his gold watch on the 16th of December, and he believed the prisoner was one of the men, but he did not wish to prosecute, as he was not certain of his identity. The prisoner had been convicted before, but he was not prepared with the date of the conviction. — Mr. Lushington committed the prisoner for trial.

Watch Robbery in the Commercial-road.

Frederick Johnson, 20, and James Hazell, 19, were charged with assaulting and stealing a watch from a person unknown. — John Calton, colonial merchant, West Harbour-street, Commercial-road, said: At a quarter past five on the 17th inst., I was walking along Commercial-road, Mile End, Stepney, close to Myrtle-street, when I saw several young men acting in a suspicious manner, and at Cannon-street-road two crossed. On reaching Longuehayne's, linendrapers, the prisoners spoke to each other and walked very quickly in front of me in single file. At the corner of Sidney-street I saw Hazell snatch a man's watch, and they all ran down Sidney-street. The man followed, and about twenty yards down the street was tripped up by a tall man. I followed and caught hold of the tall man, and threw him on one side. I then went to the station and described the tall man and Hazell. I picked both out at the station on the 20th inst., but I have a doubt about Johnson's identity. — In answer to Mr. Lushington, the witness said, "I believe it was Hazell who took the watch from the man." — Mr. Lushington remanded the prisoner for a week.

Another Case.

James Gibbs, a powerfully-built looking fellow, was charged with stealing a watch and part of a chain from the person of Thomas Phillips, a medical gentleman, residing at Commercial-road East. — Sergeant William New, H Division of police, who had been instrumental in company with the other officers in the previous case, in bringing the prisoners, who belong to notorious gang of thieves in the East-end to justice, said the doctor had attended the station and expressed his desire to prosecute, but was not at present in attendance, and he asked that the case might be put back to enable him to come to the court. — It appeared that at half past six o'clock on the evening of the 16th inst. the prosecutor was walking along Commercial-road East, when he was surrounded by a gang of about eight rough fellows, including the prisoner, who hustled him about, and he was robbed of his watch and chain, all of the thieves effecting their escape. On the 20th inst. Sergeant New went to a house in Devonshire-street, Commercial-road, where he found the prisoner, and took him into custody. In answer to the charge, he said, "You have got us for a good job, but I can get out of all right this time." Sergeant New said the prisoner had only been recently discharged from prison, but he was not at present prepared with the date of his conviction. — Mr. Lushington remanded the prisoner for the attendance of the

HORRIBLE MURDER AND SUICIDE.

A terrible tragedy was reported from Carlisle on Saturday. Richard Glaister, between 30 and 40 years of age, was formerly traveller for a London firm, and whilst there he fell from his gig and hurt his head. After leaving London he went into the grocery trade but failed, and has latterly been out of a situation. It is stated that he had had differences with his wife, and that she had arranged to leave him, and go home to her mother. About noon on the 1st a railway lorryman went to the house to remove some of the furniture, and as he could obtain no answer to his knocking, and the neighbours had not seen the Glaisters astir, the window was forced by a joiner, who, with Mrs. Glaister's brother, entered.

A Horrible Spectacle awaited them. In the bed-room, at the foot of the bed, was lying Mrs. Glaister, cut and stabbed in the face and breast in many places, and with a deep wound on her chest. She was quite dead, and at the head of the bed was seated her dead husband, with his head nearly severed from his body. He was grasping in his hand a bread-knife, with which it is supposed he had first of all murdered his wife, who had been much cut in struggling to defend herself, and then cut his own throat. He had before committing the murder written two letters, one of them dated so far back as Tuesday, in which he said, "It's hercules temper and tongue that have caused the affair, to say nothing of her hands." In the second letter, dated Friday, he says, "I've lived as long as I could and no longer than I could have peace in this world. I now fly to the next to get rest and peace for my poor shattered head and name. May God have mercy upon my soul." At the inquest the jury returned a verdict of wilful murder against Richard Glaister in the inquisition on the wife's body, and of suicide while temporarily insane in the case of the husband.

CONSERVATISM AT STOCKPORT.

Speaking at the opening of a Conservative club at Stockport last week, Mr. Louis G. Jennings, M.P., referred to the Free Trade question. He said at the present time, when the vital issue before the country was whether we should remain intact, or be split up by a party of treacherous mongers, we must not run the risk of a division in party. Conservatism had to consider that Messrs. Bright, Hartington, and Chamberlain were working with them to maintain the Union, and that they looked upon any vigorous pressing of the Free Trade movement as hostile to them and their followers. Not even the Free Trade party would warrant the breaking up of the empire. — A vote of thanks was tendered to the lecturer for his services.

On Saturday the East Middlesex coroner held an inquest at Shoreditch on the body of Stephen Crowther, aged 77, butcher, late of 221, Chancery-street, Hoxton. It appeared that the deceased had a fit on Tuesday, and was put to bed and seemed better at night, but on the following morning he was found sitting up in bed dead. Dr. Murray ascribed death to failure of the heart's action, consequent on exertion, and a verdict to that effect was returned.

Last week Mr. William Carter held an inquest at the Lord Nelson, Trafalgar-street, Walworth, on the body of Edward James Jeffrey, aged 2 months, the son of parents residing at 77, Orme-street, Walworth, who was discovered dead in bed on his mother's arm. Dr. Pain, of the New Kent-road, who was called in after death, attributed death to asphyxia or suffocation, and a verdict of accidental death was returned.

TERRIBLE DEATHS FROM SCALDING.

A Man Boiled in a Bath.

On Saturday Dr. George Danford Thomas held an inquiry at the Holborn Town Hall concerning the death of Alphonzo Migotti, aged 45, of independent means. — Mr. Gerard Migotti, a vestryman of Holborn, stated that he was secretary of St. George's Mansions, Red Lion-square, and resided there. The deceased (his brother) came on a visit to him last week. He was robust, and studied his bodily health. On Wednesday morning he was missed from his bed-room, but no notice was taken, as they thought he had gone for a morning walk. All day on Wednesday he was not seen, and towards evening witness became anxious. At nine a.m. on Thursday information came by the caretaker, William Nash, that the deceased had been found dead in the bath room on the top floor. — By the Coroner: The bath had a patent geyser, and was in a room 8ft. long by 5ft. 6in. wide. It was in perfect order. Some years ago the deceased had mental trouble. The witness had no reason to suppose that he went to the room with any other intention but taking a bath. — William Nash, caretaker, stated that in going his rounds on Thursday morning he noticed steam and water coming from the bath-room. Upon opening the door he saw the deceased half in the bath. The steam in the room was overpowering. The geyser was alight and red hot. Assistance came, and deceased was got out. — By the Coroner: A bath of this description required the windows to be opened to prepare the same before using. Witness had experienced a sensation of suffocation when using a geyser bath in a confined room. — Dr. Sumner, 19, Guildford-street, deposed that when called to the deceased he found him laying in the bath with his head and shoulders under water, giving an idea that he had fallen in head first. The water in the bath was boiling. Deceased's arms and body were blistered, and, in fact, he was practically "boiled to death." Death had resulted from asphyxia and syncope. — A verdict of death from misadventure.

Three Children Scalded to Death.

On Saturday Mr. W. Carter held an inquest in the coroner's room at St. Thomas's Hospital on the body of Henry Alfred Lambert, aged 1 year and 1 month, the son of parents residing at No. 3, St. Mary's Cottages, Marmbury-place, Vauxhall, who died from the effects of scalds. — It appeared from the evidence of Mrs. Charlotte Lambert, the mother, that about noon on Sunday, the 6th inst., she was cooking dinner for the family, when she took a breakfast cup full of hot broth from a saucepan, and placed it on the table. She then went to the corner of the room to wash her hands, and whilst engaged in doing so she was startled at hearing a loud scream in the room, and upon looking round she saw that the deceased had pulled the cup of hot broth over himself. Deceased was removed to St. Thomas's Hospital, and admitted, but he grew worse, and died on the 18th. — Frederick Augustus Lambert, the father of the deceased, who was in the room at the time of the occurrence, reading a book, gave corroborative evidence. — Mr. John Herbert Tonkin, one of the house surgeons at St. Thomas's Hospital, deposed to death being due to shock consequent upon severe scalds to the face, chest, and arms, and the jury returned a verdict of accidental death. — While holding the foregoing inquiry Mr. Carter, the coroner, was informed by the officials at St. Thomas's Hospital that Robert Henry Ryan, aged 3 years and 9 months, the son of a carpenter, had died in that institution on the previous day from the effects of scalds received through pulling a saucepan of soup over himself from off the hob of the fireplace, on the 17th inst. — The same coroner was also informed of the death of Alfred Thomas Benson, aged 3 years, the son of a provision merchant's assistant, residing at No. 5, Flinton-street, Surrey-square, Old Kent-road, who also died from the effects of scalds. It would appear that in this case the mother was confined to her bed and was being attended to by a nurse. The latter on the morning of Thursday left a pair of almost boiling water beneath the table in the kitchen, and during her temporary absence the child appeared to have fallen into it and thereby became severely scalded. Dr. Wills was called in, and the unfortunate child rapidly grew worse and died on Friday.

THREE MONTHS IN AUSTRALIA.

On Saturday Mr. Howard Hodgkin, M.A., delivered a lecture under this title at the Working Men's College, Bloomsbury. In the course of his remarks the lecturer said that owing to the publication of Mr. Froude's book, "Oceania," Englishmen were better acquainted with Australia than had been the case since the colony was founded. Australia, which covered twenty-four times the size of England, was really a counter-part of the mother country. On arrival, say at Melbourne, one would be struck by the similarity of the streets to those that had been left behind in London. The shop windows would be filled with English goods, the streets disfigured by telegraph wires, and the air pierced with the sound of trains just as at home. It was not only by outward appearance that the colony resembled us, but also in its government, though in a more democratic sense. Our Queen and Parliament were the nominal governors, but the moment a man settled in a district he felt more responsible to the institution of the colony. The people there come more into contact with their responsible Ministers of State. A great majority of the Ministers have risen from humble position, and are known to a large section of the colony to which they belong. Owing, however, to the fact of some of the colonies paying their members of Parliament, an inferior class of legislators were brought forward. Taken as a whole, he considered that the working classes were far better off in the colonies than here. Any sober and industrious man, who worked hard, was bound to get on. The wages were far higher, and the resources of the soil far greater than at home. The agricultural labourer was wanted more than any other man, and the farmers out there would be very glad to get steady men at £10 to £20 a week, besides clothing and feeding. He remembered meeting a young man at Melbourne, who told him that owing to the slackness of the carpentering trade in England, he had emigrated, and in five years he built himself two houses, one for his own family, and the other he let at £10 a week. This work had been done in his spare time, and had in no way interfered with his ordinary work, for which he was paid £10 a day. The working men out there were more temperate than those at home, and the beverage most in use amongst them was tea. In conclusion, the lecturer said that no doubt there were in this country some people who said that emigration was expatriation, but surely it would be right for a man to better his position by moving his home to another portion of the empire. — A vote of thanks was tendered to the lecturer for his services.

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The trockship Euphrates arrived at Bombay on Saturday.

The Vienna Male Choral Society purpose paying a visit this year to London, where they will give three concerts during the month of June.

The vacancy in the court of the Goldsmiths' Company has been filled by the election of Sir Richard E. Webster, Q.C., M.P., Attorney-general.

A ROYAL ROMANCE.

A Vienna correspondent gives "authentic particulars" of the Royal romance which has culminated in the engagement of Prince Oscar Charles, second son of the King of Sweden, to a young lady of his own nationality but not of Royal blood. It appears that the Crown Princess of Sweden had among her maids of honour a young Swedish lady, Miss Munck, known for her beauty, grace, and charming manner. Wherever she went was admired, and while with the Crown Princess in Germany she even attracted the attention of the Emperor William, who has always been a worshipper of the fair sex, but although of noble birth, Miss Munck was poor and an orphan. Eventually Miss Munck, yielding to the pressing advice of her friends, accepted an offer of marriage from a wealthy young officer belonging to a crack cavalry regiment, and everything was prepared for the wedding. The day was fixed, the trockship was bought, and presents had arrived, when suddenly Miss Munck broke off her engagement for reasons which convinced her that she did not possess the exclusive affections of her suitor. She resisted all attempts at reconciliation, and retired from court for some time. When she returned her former high spirits had gone, and her face bore an expression of melancholy, which, however, enhanced her beauty considerably. Meanwhile, Prince Oscar had been for a two years' trip round the world in the Royal Swedish frigate Vanadis. Shortly after his return he was welcomed at the Royal Court, and was received with great honour. The ladies screamed, and for some time were in great terror. With difficulty the door was closed. The train did not stop until Willesden was reached, and there the railway officials were informed of what had taken place. The deceased appeared to have no luggage with him, and so far as witness could tell, was not under the influence of drink. It was about four o'clock when the train passed Watford. — John Gray, a plate-layer, deposited to finding the body lying in the six-foot way near to the tunnel. Dr. Kudyard was fetched, and pronounced life to be extinct. — Mr. E. Brooks, station-master, gave similar testimony as to the finding of the body. — Dr. Brady, who had made a post mortem examination of the body, said the deceased appeared to be about 50 years of age. From his appearance he should say that the deceased had been in the habit of taking large quantities of stimulants, but he did not appear to have been suffering from any disease. The skull was smashed all round, the right arm was nearly cut off, and the fingers of the left hand were cut as if a train had passed over them. The injuries were such as would be caused by falling from

A RAILWAY TRAGEDY.

Shockingly Affair at Watford.

An inquest was opened on Saturday afternoon at the Queen's Arms Hotel, Watford, before Mr. Braithwaite, coroner for West Herts, on the body of a man unknown who was killed on the London and North-Western Railway at Watford under singular circumstances on the 18th inst. Mr. Groom, district superintendent, and Mr. Copping, chief superintendent of police at Euston Railway Station, appeared on behalf of the London and North-Western Railway Company. — Mr. Bartram, of Garfield House, Willesden, stated that on the 18th he travelled by the 12.30 train from Liverpool in the third-class carriage. The deceased was a passenger in the same compartment, and got in at Lime-street Station. There were two ladies and two other gentlemen in the same compartment. The deceased sat still and did not speak to any one during the whole of the journey. When the train got to Watford Tunnel witness heard the window slam down next to where the deceased was sitting, and at the same time he heard one of the ladies shriek and say, "What are you doing? There is no station here." Deceased opened the door, and just as the train was leaving the tunnel witness saw him on the footboard. A gentleman sitting opposite him made an endeavour to catch hold of him but unsuccessfully, and

The Deceased Disappeared.

The ladies screamed, and for some time were in great terror. With difficulty the door was closed. The train did not stop until Willesden was reached, and there the railway officials were informed of what had taken place. The deceased appeared to have no luggage with him, and so far as witness could tell, was not under the influence

MYSTERIOUS MURDER IN MARYLEBONE. Inquest and Verdict.

At the Ossington coffee tavern, Paradise-street, Marylebone, on Friday, Dr. Danford Thomas opened an inquiry into the circumstances attending the death of Lucy Clark, a dressmaker and an unmarried woman, aged 49, lately living at 86, George-street, Portman-square, who was found under suspicious circumstances at the above-named address on Monday evening last with her throat cut.

Detective-inspector Robson watched the case on behalf of the police.—Mr. Francis Clark, 150, Walworth-road, brother of the deceased, said that he last saw her alive on Sunday, January 8th. On two or three occasions he had visited her at her house, and he went there on December 31st. She occupied the three rooms on the first floor, and had lived there about three years. She always appeared to be able to keep herself comfortably, and he believed the furniture was her own. When he visited her last the lower (a shop) and upper parts of the house were empty, she being the sole tenant at the time. On Saturday last he went to her house to invite her to dinner the next day, but although he rang the bell he received no answer. After waiting about three-quarters of an hour he scribbled a note on a slip of paper, and put it into the letterbox. On Monday he received information of her death, and he then went to the Marylebone Police Station and made a statement. He did not know whether his sister had a banking account, but she possessed a gold watch and chain, rings, earrings, and trinkets; but he did not know whether she kept money in the house. She had been visited lately by two of her nephews, and his sister informed him of this when he last saw her. Their names were Harry and Walter Chadwick the former about 20 and the other 19. They live together at 78, Gloucester-street, Pimlico, Harry being in an architect's office. There was some little disagreement between the deceased and the two nephews, and this he learned from his last conversation with the deceased on January 8th. She then told him that she had lost some of her trinkets, and she said she thought that the nephews had taken them. He had not heard whether they were discovered. She told him that she meant to accuse them of it, and to let them understand that she suspected them. He saw the nephews at the police station on Monday evening. The deceased said that she was laid up while on a visit to the Chadwicks on January 3rd, and fearing her cat would starve, she gave her key to one of the nephews to go to her apartments. On the following day she returned home, and then missed one of her trinkets. He had heard that her rooms were found in a disordered condition.—Young Mews, of Frome, Somersetshire, stated he was a brother-in-law of the deceased, and on hearing of her death came to London. He knew that she had "means," and had heard that she had some money in the bank.—The Coroner: Yes, she had, I see from the papers, £100 in the bank, £200 or £300 in Consols, and gold and notes were found at her house.—William G. Betts, clerk to a land agent in Orchard-street, residing at Crouch End, said he went to the house in question on Monday evening last at a quarter to five with two ladies to show them the shop. He took them round the shop, and then leaving them went into the passage to get the letters. As he returned from the door he saw the body of a woman lying across at the foot of the staircase. He saw blood about and a wound on the throat. He at once got the ladies out, and went for a constable.

The Police and Medical Evidence.

—Police-constable 136 D said he was on fixed point at Portman-square on the evening of Monday last, when the last witness said something to him, and he went with him to 86, George-street. He saw the deceased, and, taking her hand, ascertained that she was dead. Then he and the last witness went to fetch a doctor. There was considerable difficulty in finding a medical man at home, and, after calling upon six, he obtained the services of Dr. Times. They then went back to the house, and, after taking the hand of the deceased, the doctor said she had probably been dead three or four days. He asked him what was the cause of death, and the doctor replied probably by breaking a blood-vessel. He then had the assistance of another constable, and they searched the upstairs rooms, when they found an empty jewel-case, and an empty watch-case, and their contents scattered about the floor. He had the body removed to the mortuary.—Dr. Henry Times, of 23, Manchester-street, Manchester-square, stated that he went with the last witness to the house on the afternoon named. The deceased was lying in such a position that she could not be seen from the front door. The body lay across the passage, with the head over the top step leading to the rooms below. There was a great deal of blood about and on the passage, but there was none upstairs. He had since made a post mortem examination, and found an extensive fracture of the skull, the throat was cut from ear to ear, there was also an extensive fracture, and one or two lesser ones. The principal vessels of the throat were cut, the air vessel was cut through, and the cut had been of such an excessive character that there was a notch in the spinal column. There was also a wound 2 in. in diameter penetrating to the brain. He thought that must have been from a blow with a mallet. His belief was that two assaults had been committed with two different weapons.—Mr. F. W. Spurgeon, the divisional surgeon, Henrietta-street, Cavendish-square, deposed that he went to the house where the deceased lay about seven o'clock on the evening named. He made a cursory examination of the body then, and concurred in the evidence given by the last witness. Upon the post mortem examination he found bruises on the arms and all over the head. The wounds upon the head were extensive, and very serious. Some of them could not be seen until the hair was removed. There was a great difference in the appearance of the wounds. What he saw could not have been produced by a fall downstairs. The throat must have been cut during life; the spinal column was notched to the depth of an eighth of an inch. All the wounds, in his opinion, were inflicted during life. Death must have been instantaneous after the throat was cut.—By a Juror: The appearance of the cuts in the throat indicated that they were inflicted by one standing in front.—By the Coroner: He was positive that the wounds could not have been inflicted by the deceased. The skull was broken into five pieces. Deceased must have been dead from three to five days. The food was partially digested, and death must have taken place about two hours after dinner or after supper. He saw no instrument about the place. The wound in the throat was not clean cut, the edges were ragged. He went upstairs and saw the condition of the rooms. On the middle finger of the left hand was a streak of blood and a slight wound, as if a ring had been forcibly torn off.—After further evidence, a verdict of wilful murder against some person or persons unknown was returned.

A SHOCKING CASE.

Dr. Danford Thomas held an inquest at the Ossington coffee tavern, Marylebone, on Wednesday, on the body of Alice Beatrice Purkiss, six weeks old, the illegitimate daughter of Mary Ann Purkiss, a girl of 15, living with her parents at 11, Northwick Mews. It seemed that the mother of the child was confined in Queen Charlotte's Hospital, after which, with her baby, she returned to her parents' house. The girl's mother had the child with her in bed until two on Sunday morning, when Mr. Purkiss, a cabman, returned home. It was then transferred to the care of his mother, Mary Ann Purkiss. She awoke at seven, had a cup of tea, and then returned to the bed, when she found her child lying dead against the wall.

Dr. Lemaire, who was summoned, deposed that death was due to a convulsive fit.—The jury returned a verdict accordingly.

ACTION AGAINST THE EX-LORD MAYOR.

Coumbe, practising at Twyford, Berks, on Friday, in a contested case, before Mr. Justice Stephen and a special jury, had awarded to him for professional services the substantial verdict of £20, the balance of £210 claimed against Sir Reginald Hanson, ex-Lord Mayor of London, and Lieutenant-colonel Broadhurst, during eight months' medical attendance when the latter was laid up with a fractured thigh sustained by a carriage accident, when Colonel Broadhurst, a guest of Sir Reginald Hanson, at Walgrave Hall, was driving in the neighbourhood of Twyford.

THE ECLIPSE OF THE MOON.

The following details with regard to the eclipse of the moon on Saturday night are given by the Chronological and Astronomical Association:—First contact with shadow of earth, 21h. 31m.; beginning of total eclipse, 22h. 31m.; middle of eclipse, 23h. 20m.; end of total eclipse, 24h. 9m.; last contact with shadow of earth, 1h. 10m. The distance of the moon at noon on Saturday was 234,921 miles; at midnight on Saturday 233,913; and at noon on Sunday 232,913. The moon will be in perigee (nearest distance) on February 1st. Dated by this eclipse, Saturday, 28th of 4th month, 5,881 A.M., from creation or re-fabrication of the world, showing that English time is erroneously one year and nine months in advance of true time."

A NEW STATION WANTED.

The inhabitants of Sellindge and the surrounding districts intend to present a petition to the South-Eastern Railway Company to provide them with a station at Grove Bridge, in the parish of Sellindge.

COLLIERY EXPLOSION: LOSS OF OVER FIFTY LIVES.

In consequence of an explosion of fire-damp at the Wellington Collieries, Vancouver Island, on Tuesday, more than fifty lives have been lost. The explosion shot a mass of debris out of the shaft, accompanied with smoke and dust. The fan-house was partly destroyed, but it was quickly repaired, and the fan was set to work. The shaft timbers were destroyed, so that the cages could not be used, but pulleys and ropes were prepared for the rescue of the entombed workers. The first man who came out of the pit climbed by means of the cage wireable through the shattered timbers to within 100ft. of the top. A rope was then lowered to him, and he reached the surface exhausted. A second collier similarly escaped, but the third, when near the top, fell dead to the bottom of the shaft. Two searchers were sent down, who found that the mine had not been set on fire. They reported that they heard calls from below. A temporary cage was made and lowered for some distance, the colliers climbing to it on ladders. By the afternoon 103 of the 160 men who had descended the pit had been rescued. The explosion occurred in the lowest level. The bodies of 25 white men and as many Chinese have been recovered.

ALLEGED FATAL FIGHT.

An inquiry was held at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, by Mr. S. F. Langham, the City coroner, touching the death of Walter Henry Wakeling, aged 20, a carman, lately living at 14, Kentish-street, Rotherhithe, who is alleged to have died from injuries received at the hands of William George Lands, a carman, in the employ of the South-Eastern Railway Company.—Henry Wakeling, a carrier, and brother of the deceased, stated that on September 19th he, with his brother, were loading a van at Bricklayers' Arms Station. The deceased had been at the yard since the early morning, and he got his goods on a stack in the yard ready for loading. As witness went towards the van he saw Lands had his van backed to the goods the deceased had stacked, and was emptying some other goods on the top of them, thereby stopping the deceased from going on with his work. Witness then saw his brother throw some of the goods back again into Lands's van. After some controversy the deceased went up to Lands and struck him in the face. Lands picked up a bottle, but did not use it as far as witness could see, but his brother got off the van, and laid on some straw. He said that Lands had kicked him, and appeared to be in great pain. Witness thought he would soon be better, and went away for an hour, but on his return found the deceased had gone, so advised him to go to the hospital. The deceased, however, went home, where he was seen by a doctor, who prescribed for him. Subsequently he was removed to St. Bartholomew's Hospital, where he died on the 19th inst., just four months after the injury.—Edward Gamble, a carman, who was in the yard at the time, gave corroborative evidence, adding that when the deceased struck the first blow Lands hit him in the face, making his mouth bleed. Witness only saw one kick given.—Albert Allen, 50, Mawbey-road, Old Kent-road, a carman, stated that he saw how the row originated. It was the result of the deceased's mate refusing to pull his horse up and make room for Lands to unload his van. The deceased was the aggressor when blows were struck. Witness did not see Lands kick him, but he saw the deceased strike Lands many times.—Mr. Edward J. Sidebottom, physician at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, deposed to seeing the deceased on his admission. He had a tumour on his side. He remained under witness's care till his death on the 19th inst. On the 10th of this month an operation was performed successfully. A post mortem examination revealed disease of the kidneys. All the other organs were healthy. The death of a man suffering from such disease might possibly be accelerated by a kick in the stomach. In this case he could not say positively if it had done so. The kick might have caused the tumour, but again he was not sure that that had been so.—The jury returned a verdict that the deceased died from disease of the kidneys, but whether accelerated by the last witness. Upon the post mortem examination he found bruises on the arms and all over the head. The wounds upon the head were extensive, and very serious. Some of them could not be seen until the hair was removed. There was a great difference in the appearance of the wounds. What he saw could not have been produced by a fall downstairs. The throat must have been cut during life; the spinal column was notched to the depth of an eighth of an inch. All the wounds, in his opinion, were inflicted during life. Death must have been instantaneous after the throat was cut.—By a Juror: The appearance of the cuts in the throat indicated that they were inflicted by one standing in front.—By the Coroner: He was positive that the wounds could not have been inflicted by the deceased. The skull was broken into five pieces. Deceased must have been dead from three to five days. The food was partially digested, and death must have taken place about two hours after dinner or after supper. He saw no instrument about the place. The wound in the throat was not clean cut, the edges were ragged. He went upstairs and saw the condition of the rooms. On the middle finger of the left hand was a streak of blood and a slight wound, as if a ring had been forcibly torn off.—After further evidence, a verdict of wilful murder against some person or persons unknown was returned.

THE CAKE THAT BAFFLED THE BAKER.

At the Southwark County Court on Thursday, before Judge Holroyd, the case of Hale v. Farnborough was decided. This was a claim for 3s. the value of a cake alleged to have been spoilt in the baking by the defendant, who is a baker.—The plaintiff said his wife sent the cake to the defendant to be cooked.—His Honour: What sort of a cake was it?—Plaintiff: A Christmas cake, with plums and currants. His wife had made the same cake three or four years running, and it had always been properly baked before. When this cake was brought home the outside was dry, but the inside was quite raw.—His Honour: That was because it was not mixed properly.—Plaintiff: My wife has been a domestic servant, and has cooked cakes for gentlemen's families. (Renewed laughter.)—His Honour: Accidents will happen in the best regulated families. (More laughter.)—The defendant said the cake was more like a Christmas pudding. He kept it in the oven for five hours, but it was impossible to bake it. It was really a pudding, and not a cake. (Laughter.)—His Honour: Was it in a tin?—His Honour: You might have baked it the same as a pudding. You know that there are such things as baked plum puddings.—The defendant said it was impossible to bake it.—His Honour said he did not think the cake was properly baked, and gave judgment for the defendant.—As the parties were leaving the court his honor told the defendant to give the plaintiff his cake.—Defendant: Oh, yes. He's quite welcome to that. (Laughter.)

SHOCKING FATALITY.

At Denbury, Devon, on Friday, a policeman named Bear went into his garden with a double-barrelled gun, saying that he was going to shoot a bird. Shortly afterwards he was found lying dead in the garden, the upper part of his head having been blown completely away. It is believed that the gun had been accidentally discharged.

The Prince of Wales visited the Haymarket Theatre on Thursday evening to witness the performance of "Partners."

WORKING A CHARM.

How the Toothache was Cured.

At Tramore (county Waterford) Petty Sessions on Wednesday, before Major Maunsell and Mr. Rogers, a man named Tom Dooley and his wife were charged with having been found at prohibited hours on licensed premises.—Constable Hassett deposed to finding the defendants as alleged.—Mrs. Dooley: Your worship, the policeman does not understand it.—Mr. Rogers: Under stand what?—Mrs. Dooley: About the charm, your worship. I'll tell you. We didn't go all to get drink. We went to see the young man in the house that has the charm. (Laughter.) He has a charm for all diseases—(laughter)—and as he had the charm for the toothache, and as my little girl was nearly mad with it, I went to him, Sunday evening as it was, but not to get a drink.—Mr. Rogers: Is it possible that there is such superstition in the town?—Mrs. Dooley: It is not at all superstitious, as you call it, your worship. The little girl was bawling and shouting with the toothache, and I said to Tom, "Come, and we will bring her to you." In the course of his remarks, he referred to the young man who has the charm for all diseases, and we will get her cured." (Loud laughter.)—Mr. Rogers: What do you mean by the charm?—Mrs. Dooley: The young man has it. (Loud laughter.)—Mr. Rogers: You don't know anything about it. You must have faith in it. (Loud laughter.)—Major Maunsell: What is the charm?—Mrs. Dooley: Some sort of a prayer, your worship. (Laughter.)—Mr. Rogers: Did he say a little whisky? (Laughter.)—Not a sup, your worship. (Renewed laughter.) It did her a great deal of good; she has not had the pain since.—Mr. Rogers: Was it the prayer or the whisky that had the charm for the toothache?—Mrs. Dooley: Is it a child like that to give her whisky?—Mr. Rogers: You are charged with having been found on licensed premises on Sunday, and you had no right to go there.—The male defendant replied that neither he nor his wife went to get drink.—Mrs. Dooley: Begor, your honour, I would go quick to your own house on a Sunday if I thought you had a charm.—The male defendant deposed that his child was yeiling and bawling with the toothache. He continued: Well, your worship, as I heard there was a young man in the public-house who had a charm for everything, my wife and I took her down to see him, and he said the charm over her and she got better for a while; but it came on again. The young man who said the charm over her was too decent to take anything, but he asked to have his hand crossed with a penny. (Laughter.) She got a little touch of it again on the Saturday night, and I did not get a wink of sleep; and we took her down because my wife said to me, "Tom, it is the third time that brings the real charm." (Laughter.) Well, just then I took her down to see him, and devil the pain she has felt since. (Renewed laughter.) The young man would not take the penny the third time; but he told me that to keep the charm good I should buy something in the house. I bought a penny orange. (Renewed laughter.) She hasn't had the pain since.—Eventually the summons was dismissed.

EXTRAORDINARY ILLEGITIMACY CASE.

His honour, Judge Thomas Hughes, was engaged for some hours at Nantwich on Wednesday hearing a remarkable action, in which the paternity of a child was involved, the parties being William Pooley, a joiner, of Nantwich, and defendant Mr. J. Stevens, a jockey, of Chilton, Berks. Plaintiff claimed £13 for maintaining the illegitimate daughter of defendant, at the rate of 4s. weekly.—Mr. Whittingham, solicitor for plaintiff, said Mr. Stevens used to come to Nantwich to visit a young lady named Sarah Lambourne, who had two children by him, one of whom, a girl, was kept by plaintiff. An agreement was entered into between them as to its maintenance. Miss Lambourne was seriously ill at Preston, and unable to appear.—Mr. Pooley was called, and said she lived next door to Miss Lambourne, and became acquainted with defendant during his visits. He agreed to take one child, and received the following sum, but un-stamped, agreement:—Feb. 19, 1886.—I agree to pay for keep and care of Miss Lambourne's two children.—(Signed) J. F. STEVENS.—The judge said he would impound the un-stamped agreement.—Plaintiff, continuing, stated that Stevens paid money on account.—In cross-examination, Pooley said defendant furnished Miss Lambourne's house for her from Maple and Co.'s.—Defendant was called, and apologised for being unable to remember every detail, as his head was seriously affected by an accident while riding a race, and he was now unable to work. His father maintained him. He denied paying money on account, as alleged, but said his brother had, without instructions. The agreement was not in his handwriting, nor was it signed by him. He believed he had been in Nantwich and had seen Miss Lambourne.—Cross-examination: He knew Mr. Hale, a Nantwich publican, but denied having ever told him he intended to marry Miss Lambourne. He could not say whether he furnished her Nantwich residence or not.—His honour held that the agreement and letters and other papers were in defendant's handwriting, and he should give judgment for the amount claimed. The judge added that, regarding his evident condition, Stevens had given his evidence very fairly and frankly.

A LUCRATIVE PARISIAN TRADE.

The trade of "knot-maker," or "tier of cravats," is not one of the least lucrative callings in Paris just now, says a correspondent. Some people will, no doubt, be disinclined to believe that much money can be made at so shadowy a handicraft; yet there are persons who make an average of £2 a night at it. The trade flourishes chiefly in the season, when there are dinners, balls, soirees, and receptions in every corner of the capital. The good "knot-maker" jumps into his cab, or perhaps a hired brougham, about six o'clock in the evening, and is whirled around to his customers just like a fashionable physician or a prosperous music hall singer who appears at a dozen cafés-chantants in the course of an evening. The faiseur de nœuds is the deftest of manipulators, and does his business in an incredibly brief space of time. For two minutes' work he receives, according to the rank or liberality of his customer, from 2s. to 5s.; nor must it be supposed that his "takings" are small in the summer, when fashionable Parisians are at the springs or the seaside, and when there are no soirees, balls, formal dinners, balls, receptions, or first nights. On the contrary, the "knot-maker" keeps himself going by bourgeois weddings, baptisms, and even funerals; for Parisians are, it must be remembered, people who patronise swallow-tails, white chokers, and immaculate shirt fronts on every possible occasion.

THE FRENCH ACTRESS AND HER ADMIRERS.

The art of fencing seems to be gaining in popularity in Paris. There has been a remarkable run lately on the services of a fashionable professor in "pinking." The reason of the great demand on the establishment was not far to seek, for it appears one of the most frequent attendants is a fascinating young actress, who is engaged at a Parisian theatre, and during her performance goes through a fencing display. She appeared at the fencing master's in her stage costume, doublet, hose, and all, every morning, creating no little sensation. Two of her devotees had a quarrel about her the other day, and she told them to settle their difference by a little practice. Infatuated youths! they obeyed. The buttons were removed from the foils, and the steels flashed in their excited hands. Just as the professor was about to interfere, one of the combatants fell fainting to the ground, having received a dangerous wound in the region of the liver. The actress has not discontinued her lessons, despite this little drama, but will, no doubt, hesitate before she again sets her admirers to work to "skewer" each other.

CABDRIVERS' BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION.

The pensioners of the Cabdrivers' Benevolent Association had their New Year's entertainment on Wednesday evening at St. James's Hall, Colonel Sir Edmund Henderson presiding. The association was founded in 1870 to give annuities at the rate of £20 each a year to aged or disabled cabdrivers; to grant loans without interest to members requiring such aid; and temporary assistance to those who might be in distress through unavoidable causes; to give legal assistance to members who might be unjustly summoned to the police courts; and to assist the widows and orphans of members who at the time of their decease were contributors to the Widow and Orphan Relief Fund. There are upwards of 1,200 members on the society's register. The entertainment was attended by about fifty annuitants and their wives and by twenty-five candidates for the pension.—Sir Edmund Henderson, who is and ever has been very popular among cabmen, was cordially greeted by the old folk. In the course of his remarks, he referred to his satisfactory relations with the cabdrivers when he was chief commissioner. He humorously claimed to be a cab proprietor on his own account, referring to his possession of a silver model of a horse and cab, worth £20, presented to him by the cabmen of London on his retirement from the chief commissionership of police. He expressed great pleasure in having that opportunity of meeting cabmen who had borne the heat and burden of the day, and were now enjoying well-earned rest.—A speech was made by an old pensioner named George Smith, who was thirty-three years a driver, and who served many years on the committee of the association. In his opinion, Sir Edmund did much for the cabmen when chief commissioner. Among other things, the radius was extended and a more liberal scale of allowance was provided for restoration of property lost by being left in cabs.—Mr. Thomas Matthews, cabman, member of the committee, said he had been connected with the institution since its foundation, and had served on the committee some ten years. He and his colleagues after working hard for a living all day managed to find time at night for the duties of the office. The committee endeavoured to do its duty to their fellow-members: they had to deal with numbers of applications monthly in reference to cases of distress, but assistance was given only after strict inquiry. The distress was sometimes of a heartrending character. There were something like 13,000 cabdrivers in the London streets; yet the association had only about 1,200 members. He hoped the number of their members, which he was glad to see increasing, would go on increasing. He was glad to say that the general public, high and low, were generous supporters of the Cabdrivers' Benevolent Association. The committee, endeavouring to do their duty, trusted that they would be able to leave the institution in a better position than they found it.—After the speaking came a concert, which was very creditably carried out, and heartily applauded by the old folks.

A CONSTABLE EVIDENTLY WRONG.

At the West Ham Police Court on Wednesday, Annie Coverdale, 21, a servant, neatly attired, was charged with being drunk and disorderly in Crown-street, Tidal Basin.—Police-constable Bloy, 75, K, said that shortly before twelve o'clock

LAST WEEK'S
LAW AND POLICE.

Queen's Bench Division.
(Before Mr. Justice Hawkins and Mr. Justice Grantham.)

Hunt v. RIDGEWAY AND OTHERS.—The plaintiff, who appeared in person, is a street musician, and on the 25th May last he was playing the trombone on the public square of Buckingham, and subsequently he went round to collect money. He was arrested by a policeman, the charge was taken by the superintendent, and the mayor convicted the plaintiff and sent him to Aylesbury Gaol for seven days. He sued to recover damages upon the ground that there was no foundation for the charge of begging made against him; and he contended that his was a "national cause," as all street musicians throughout the country did precisely as he had done. Mr. Baron Pollock, at chambers, made an order staying the action upon the ground that it was frivolous and vexatious, and this decision was now appealed against.—Mr. Graham, who was for the defendants, said that there was really no foundation for the action; and he mentioned also that the Vagrancy Act said that any action of the kind must be brought within three months, while six months were allowed to elapse before the writ was served in this case.—The court were also of opinion that no such action would lie. The magistrates were the proper persons to decide whether begging had taken place, and their decision might be questioned upon an appeal to quarter sessions. No action would lie against them or the police upon the ground that a mistake had been made.—The appeal was dismissed, but without costs, upon the plaintiff undertaking not to carry the matter further.

Middlesex Sessions—Appeals.

SINGULAR CASE OF ASSAULT.—William Keen, a chairmaker, carrying on business in Scrutton-street, Finsbury, appealed against a conviction by Mr. Hannay, at Worship-street, of one month's hard labour for an assault on William Newson, an upholsterer, in Finsbury-square. Mr. Forrest Fulton and Mr. Muir appeared in support of the conviction; and Mr. Besley represented the appellant. There was also an appeal against a conviction of one month's imprisonment for an assault on Barnes, 314 G.—From the evidence adduced it appeared that the assailant and his wife were quarrelling in Scrutton-street, and the woman ran behind Newson for protection. The assailant then struck Newson in the face and also on the chest, at the same time telling him he had no right whatever to interfere. Police-constable Barnes, who witnessed the assault, at once took hold of Keen, who struck him a blow on the chest. The constable was knocked down, and the assailant was alleged to have dragged him along by the legs for a considerable distance.—The evidence for the defence was that there was no actual assault on the constable, and that Newson had no right to interfere at all.—The court ordered the appellant to pay a fine of 25s. for the assault on Newson, instead of one month's imprisonment, and affirmed the conviction in the case of the assault on the constable.

CRIMES AT A CLUE.—Thomas Mack appealed against a conviction of Mr. Partidge, at Westminster, of two months' imprisonment for maliciously breaking a plate-glass window in the National Club (Limited), at Brompton-road. Mr. Forrest Fulton and Mr. Muir appeared for the respondent; and Mr. Besley for the appellant.—On October 10th the appellant and another man, named Smith, went to the National Club, where they asked to see a man with whom it was alleged they had made a bet. A disturbance took place, during which, it was stated, the assailant pushed a desk against the window, and then kicked it with his feet; thus committing the damage complained of.—Mr. Besley, in mitigation of sentence, said it was monstrous that a man should be sent to prison for two months for breaking a window in a betting club.—The court so far altered the sentence as to fine the appellant 2s. for the damage done, and 40s. for the offence.

Bow-street.

VERY UNTRUTHFUL.—Dora Richardson, aged 14, was charged with being in the unlawful possession of a pair of silver earrings and a brooch.—On the 16th inst. the prisoner went to Mr. Barnett's, pawnbroker, in the Euston-road, and pledged the above articles. After she had left the shop a ticket was found showing that the earrings had evidently been at a recent date in a jeweller's shop. On Friday she went to the shop again and offered an opal and sapphire ring, value 2s., and asked for an advance of 6s. She also produced another pair of earrings. She was detained and given into custody—She now said she had picked up a parcel outside a jeweller's in a doorway in the Seven Sisters-road.—Detective-sergeant Kuhrt said prison had given two false addresses, but on further inquiry he found where she lived. Upon being searched, a gold keeper ring and 3s. 6d. in silver were found in her possession.—Her mother said she was of independent means, and the prisoner was her only daughter and a school girl. She had told her that she had found a pair of earrings, watched him. He saw the prisoner pick the pocket of the prosecutor by putting his right fingers in, at the same time covering the action with the left arm.—Mr. Cavendish (chief clerk): What are you?—Witness: Theatrical profession.—Mr. Cavendish: Detective profession?—Witness: Theatrical, sir.—Mr. Cavendish: Oh, are you an actor?—Witness: Well, I hardly know as yet (laughing).—Mr. Cavendish: I thought you were a detective, and that the prisoner was the professional. This robbery was certainly committed in a most professional manner.—Mr. Barstow sentenced the prisoner to a month's hard labour in the House of Correction.

Thames.

ALLEGED SERIOUS ASSAULT.—Mary Ann Cox, who has been brought before the magistrates before and sentenced to a month for assault, was charged with committing a violent and aggravated assault on Elizabeth Smith, who was too seriously injured to attend the court.—At eight o'clock on Friday night James Smith, a plain-clothes constable, went to 8, Dove-street, Poplar, when he knocked at the door, and on entering he went to the front room upstairs. Here he saw the prisoner lying on a bed, and he told her she should take her on a warrant for violently assaulting Elizabeth Smith. She said, "I suppose you must take me, then. It's my mother's fault." She came here yesterday, and we had some drink together, and I went home with her. The landlady said something to my mother, and I struck her. When I got into trouble, it is all through Mrs. Smith."—A second officer, however, was called in, and he removed prisoner to the station.—The prisoner said that he did not ask directly for anything, but said to the gentleman, "You know best what to do?"—Mr. Whitmore, in reply to the prisoner, said he had reason to know that he was not a Bartholomew student. He gave an address at Pentonville.—Police-constable 245 C said that on searching the man at the station he found a number of papers upon him. The address given was quite correct.—The magistrate said it was evident, from the papers produced, that the prisoner had applied for aid in different names. That was sufficient to mislead people as to his identity. His conduct to say the least of it, was suspicious, and he should therefore remand him for a week, in order that further inquiries might be made about him.

Worship-street.

GAROTTE ROBBERY IN WHITECHAPEL.—Thomas McCarthy, 20, a cook, living in Devonshire-street, Commercial-road, was charged with having been concerned with a man named John Taylor, in custody, with assaulting George Hamersley, and stealing from him a gold watch value 25s.—The prosecutor, who has premises at 85 and 86, Aldgate, deposed that about half-past seven o'clock on the evening of the 10th inst., he was walking through High-street, Whitechapel, when he suddenly found his way barred by four or five men. The 10th was a very foggy night, and he had not noticed any one near him until he found himself stopped and seized. He tried to break through the men by throwing out his arms, but was dragged backwards by men behind, while others in front pulled open his overcoat and the coat beneath, and then dragged away with considerable violence the watch and chain he was wearing. The man behind him had his arm round his (prosecutor's) neck, and the actual thief stole the watch over his

company's police, was to the effect that about 6.15 on Friday night he saw the prisoner loiter about in the great hall, Euston Station, and suspecting him, he determined to watch him. The officer described in detail seeing the prisoner go from one part of the station to another, examining the luggage on the barrows and the luggage vans, and the portmanteau, the subject of the charge, he moved two or three times; once he marked it with a pencil. After being watched for nearly two hours, the prisoner picked up Mr. Stuart's portmanteau, and was about to walk out of the station with it when witness and Sergeant Johnson stopped him. The prisoner said, "Does it belong to you?" Witness replied in the negative. The prisoner then said, "Because I was going to take it to the cloak-room for you." The prisoner was then taken to the police office, where he said his name was "R. Stuart" (the name on the portmanteau), that the luggage was his, and contained several suits of clothes.—Chief-inspector Pearson asked for a remand. He said papers had been found on the prisoner showing that he had been a convict, and was discharged from Portland penal establishment only last month.—The prisoner was remanded.

A VERY BAD LOT.—Thomas and John Murphy, brothers, were charged before Mr. Cooke with being concerned together, with a man not in custody, with violently assaulting James Stephen McMahon, of Mitcham-street, Marylebone. Mr. Freke Palmer, solicitor, defended the prisoners.—The prosecutor, who appeared in the witness-box with his head bandaged, gave evidence to the effect that on Christmas Eve a brother of the prisoners stabbed him, and he accordingly caused a warrant to be issued for his arrest. A week or so ago he met one of the prisoners—he had been on friendly terms with all the family for years—who asked him if he meant to go against their brother. He replied that he did, and, in reply, Murphy remarked that then they would be bad friends, and that he (prosecutor) would be murdered before the case came before the court. On Thursday week prosecutor went into a private compartment at the Horse and Sack's public-house, Edgware-road, and, after being there for about half a minute, the two prisoners and a man named Ned Ryan entered. Thomas at once said, "Set about him," and Ryan rushed at him and struck him with drinking glasses—he believed they were broken glasses—about the head. The Murphys then attacked him, and while dealing with them Ryan dealt him a terrific blow on the back of his head with a glass. The prisoners left the house, but he (prosecutor) secured Ryan and got him down, and while tussling with him the prisoners re-entered the house, struck him, and pulled him away from Ryan, who, with the prisoners, made their escape.—Cross-examined by Mr. Freke Palmer, the prosecutor said he was known by the name of Mr. Shon. He had had three months' imprisonment for assaulting the police, but he declined to say whether he had had two months for "wishing" at Doncaster. He would swear that he did not remember having three years in a reformatory. He had been charged at Brighton with stealing a watch, but was acquitted. He had been charged with a murderous assault and robbery, but it was Tom Murphy who did it. Anyhow, he (prosecutor) was let off. He had also been charged with assaulting the police, also barman, but was acquitted. He did not remember having suffered eighteen months' imprisonment for felony.—Mr. Palmer: Do you carry a revolver?—Prosecutor: No, I do not.—Mr. Palmer: Do you carry vitriol about with you?—Prosecutor: No, certainly not.—Mr. Palmer: Have you not threatened a police-sergeant, called the "long sergeant" that you would shoot him or throw vitriol over him?—Prosecutor: No, or he would soon have run me in.—Mr. Palmer: But he has run you in, has he not?—Prosecutor: Only for bad language.—Cross-examination continued: He (prosecutor) had a row with Ryan on the night previous to the assault, and they fought.—Herbert Jefferys and Charles Reade gave corroborative evidence, and Detective-sergeant Record said he arrested Thomas Murphy, who said, "I meant to pay him for striking me on the night my brother stabbed him."—Mr. Cooke sent the case for trial for maliciously wounding with intent to do grievous bodily harm, and refused to admit to bail.

Clerkenwell.

INCORRIGIBLE.—Bessie Moncrieff, who has been frequently charged at West-end courts with disorderly conduct and assaults, and who was now brought before Mr. Partridge attired in a conspicuous ulster and a red velvet hat and feathers, was charged with making a disturbance while drunk outside St. George's Hospital.—Police-constable Gray, 234 B, said he was called to the hospital at two o'clock that morning to quiet the prisoner. She said that she had been drugged, but the doctor stated that she was simply drunk. With great difficulty she was got outside the hospital, and she then threw herself down on the footway, and used most abusive and disgusting language.—The prisoner told the magistrate that a gentleman drugged her—she was sure of it. She recollects nothing of what occurred at the hospital.—Vince, the assistant garter, proved thirty convictions at this court alone, the last being in October.—Mr. Partridge sentenced the prisoner to a month's hard labour.

PAYING THE WRONG CABMAN.—Robert Baltic, 22, a grocer, living in Tufton-street, Westminster, was charged with violently assaulting George Sullivan, a hansom cabdriver, living at 19, Crossley-street, Barnsbury.—The prosecutor, a middle-aged man, who had the bridge of his nose severely cut, deposed that about nine o'clock on Friday night he saw the prisoner in altercation with a cabman outside a public house in Buckingham Palace-road. The prisoner said he would either be paid or "pay" some one, and he knocked the witness down, when he went to the assistance of his fellow-driver. The blow he received from the prisoner—which was given without the slightest provocation—cut open the bridge of his nose.—The prisoner, in answer to the charge, said he had not the least recollection of what occurred, but, as he was drunk, he supposed he struck the wrong cabman.—Police-constable Clark, 41 B R, said he took the prisoner into custody. The prisoner acted as a sort of cab tout, and demanded money of a cabman for minding his horse. The driver refused to pay him, and after an altercation knocked him down. The prisoner mistook his man, and nearly broke the prosecutor's nose.—Mr. Partridge said the prosecutor had not given the slightest provocation, and he sentenced the prisoner to two months' imprisonment, with hard labour.

Lambeth.

SHAMEFUL CASE.—Frederick Lawrence, a journeyman painter, was summoned to show cause why he should not contribute towards the support of his wife and children.—Mary Ann Lawrence, now residing at Grove-road, Woodford, said she was married to the defendant at St. John's Church, Buckhurst Hill, on the 20th July, 1876, and there had been five children of the marriage. Defendant left her eight months ago to go and live with another woman. She had repeatedly asked him for money, but he had refused to give her any, although he had been employed in the Seven Sisters-road. After the defendant left her she was, with her family, turned out of her house into the street by the brokers, who seized most of the goods, which belonged to herself, whilst the remainder she had got rid of to maintain herself and youngsters. One of her sisters had also helped her.—Defendant here asked complainant as to certain letters he had sent to her, and asked her to produce them. She, however, declared that she had not received any, whereupon defendant exclaimed, "You are a false woman, and a female in court, who was said to be 'the lady previously referred to,' also shouted out, 'You are a liar!' and was at once ordered to leave the court.—Defendant repeated what he had said about the letters, and declared that he had been out of employment for a long time.—Mrs. Ophelia Heard, of Grove-road, said that complainant had been residing with her during the past six months.—The bench made an order on defendant to pay 12s. 6d. a week, adding that if he did not pay he would have to go to prison.—Defendant: May I ask the court how I am to pay, when I am out of employment?—The chairman said defendant must make provision when in employment; he do as other people—maintain his own proge

tempting to obtain cakes, flour, and other articles from Mr. Abel Drake Sampson, a baker and confectioner, of Lancaster-road, Notting Hill, by false representations.—The prosecutor deposed that on Friday prisoner entered the shop and said, "I have brought you a new customer from No. 5, Elgin Avenue, Harrow-road." After thanking her, the prisoner said, "Send me 6 lbs. of biscuits, a cake, and some flour. I shall want them to-morrow, as the servants are coming home. The family are not coming home until Monday; in fact, the gentleman is going to bring home a new wife—the second wife. In the first wife's time they had a great horror of dealing in the Harrow-road. I shall require pastry on Monday, as I am not much up in pastry." She then ordered two large fruit pies, and some small pastry to follow, to be sent to Mr. Bateman. She left the shop, but returned in a few minutes, and said she had met with an unfortunate accident, and showed a slit in her pocket. She stated that she had lost all her money, and asked for an advance to enable her to go to the City. Mr. Sampson refused, and she went away. He did not supply the goods, and he next saw her in custody.—Ellen Griffiths, cook to Mr. Lambert, at the address given by the prisoner, was called, and said she did not know her. Persons had brought a number of things to the house for Captain Bateman, but she never took them in, as she did not know the name.—The prisoner said she had been drugged, but the doctor stated that she was simply drunk. With great difficulty she was got outside the hospital, and she then threw herself down on the footway, and used most abusive and disgusting language.—The prisoner told the magistrate that a gentleman drugged her—she was sure of it. She recollects nothing of what occurred at the hospital.—Vince, the assistant garter, proved thirty convictions at this court alone, the last being in October.—Mr. Partridge sentenced the prisoner to a month's hard labour.

FATAL FALL.—Mr. Wynne E. Baxter held an inquest at the Shoreditch Town Hall, Old-street, on the body of Edward Chambers, aged 81, a superintendent of the Haggerston Soups Kitchen, Jack-street, Haggerston.—Charlotte Chambers, widow of the deceased, stated that on Tuesday the deceased was carrying some wood upstairs when she heard a fall, and going to see what it was, found her husband lying at the bottom of the stairs. He was bleeding from wounds on the head and face. Before the occurrence she had been told that her husband was very weak in the legs, and that he was suffering from softening of the brain. A doctor was called in, but deceased succumbed to his injuries.—Mr. Henry Bird, surgeon, of 235, Kingsland-road, stated that he was called to the deceased on Tuesday. He found him lying on a table in an unconscious condition. There was a wound on the scalp and an abrasion on the nose. Death was due to shock consequent on the injuries.—A verdict of accidental death was returned.

How the Poor Live.—Dr. Danford Thomas held an inquest at the Brighton coffee-tavern, Marylebone, concerning the death of Ellen Burke, about 70 years old, who was found dead in an underground kitchen—declared unfit for human habitation—in East-street, Marylebone.—Mr. H. Cooper, relieving officer, said he was fetched to see deceased on Wednesday morning. He found her lying, in a wretchedly dirty condition, when she heard a fall, and, going to see what it was, found her husband lying at the bottom of the stairs. He was bleeding from wounds on the head and face. Before the occurrence she had been told that her husband was very weak in the legs, and that he was suffering from softening of the brain. A doctor was called in, but deceased succumbed to his injuries.—A verdict of accidental death was returned.

Stratford.—Dr. G. Danford Thomas held an inquest at the Brighton coffee-tavern, Marylebone, concerning the death of Ellen Burke, about 70 years old, who was found dead in an underground kitchen—declared unfit for human habitation—in East-street, Marylebone.—Mr. H. Cooper, relieving officer, said he was fetched to see deceased on Wednesday morning. He found her lying, in a wretchedly dirty condition, when she heard a fall, and, going to see what it was, found her husband lying at the bottom of the stairs. He was bleeding from wounds on the head and face. Before the occurrence she had been told that her husband was very weak in the legs, and that he was suffering from softening of the brain. A doctor was called in, but deceased succumbed to his injuries.—A verdict of accidental death was returned.

West Ham.—Dr. G. Danford Thomas held an inquest at the Crowndale Hall on the body of Eliza Duggin, aged 49, the wife of a pavior's labourer, living at No. 9, Brighton-street, Gray's Inn-road.—Michael Duggin, the husband, stated that he had been out of work for some time before Christmas till last week, when he went to work up to Thursday. His wife had a bit of a cold on Wednesday, the 11th, and took to her bed, but he did not think she was very ill. He gave her a cup of tea and a mouthful of bread, which was charged in from the workhouse. She was suffering from dropsy.—The Coroner: But she might have gone to the workhouse infirmary.—Witness said the deceased had no money, and, in consideration of her state and as a consequence, she allowed her to stay with her. The deceased became ill, but she obstinately refused to go to the workhouse again, and she suddenly died on Wednesday.—Dr. Montague Thomas, partner medical officer, attributed death to syncope and exhaustion, consequent upon decay of nature and natural causes.—The jury returned a verdict in accordance with the medical evidence, and expressed a hope that the old dwellings in question would soon be removed.

STARVED TO DEATH.—Dr. G. Danford Thomas held an inquest at the Crowndale Hall on the body of Eliza Duggin, aged 49, the wife of a pavior's labourer, living at No. 9, Brighton-street, Gray's Inn-road.—Michael Duggin, the husband, stated that he had been out of work for some time before Christmas till last week, when he went to work up to Thursday. His wife had a bit of a cold on Wednesday, the 11th, and took to her bed, but he did not think she was very ill. He gave her a cup of tea and a mouthful of bread, which was charged in from the workhouse. She was suffering from dropsy.—The Coroner: But she might have gone to the workhouse again, and she suddenly died on Wednesday.—Dr. Montague Thomas, partner medical officer, attributed death to syncope and exhaustion, consequent upon decay of nature and natural causes.—The jury returned a verdict in accordance with the medical evidence, and expressed a hope that the old dwellings in question would soon be removed.

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THE STRAND FIRE.

Trial for Arson—A Legal Point.
At the Old Bailey on Saturday, Mr. Justice Charles summed up the case of Leon Serne and John Henry Goldfinch, barbers, who were indicted for maliciously setting fire to a house, persons being therein at the time. The trial was reported last week. His lordship said the counsel for the defence had alluded to the fact that the prisoners were tried and acquitted at the last session on the charge of wilful murder, when the evidence then given was practically the same as in this case for arson. It was not for the present jury to say what was in the minds of the last jury. They were only trying the men on a charge of wilful murder, and they had no power to reduce the charge to one of arson. They might for anything the present jury knew have thought that the prisoners did not set fire to the premises, but they were not asked to pass judgment on such a point. They also might have thought that they did, or one of them did, cause the fire, but still shrank from the terrible conclusion that they had the intention to destroy Serne's two boys. Therefore, it was for the present jury to decide, independently altogether of the previous inquiry, whether the two prisoners, or either of them, committed the crime of arson. Dealing with the evidence, the learned judge said it was no exaggeration to say that at the end of August last year Serne had absolutely nothing, for when the sheriff's officer went to distrain for debt he did not find enough to meet the claims, and consequently withdrew. On the 8th of August Serne determined to insure the premises, and although he wanted to effect the insurance for £500, he ultimately did so for the sum of £700 in the North British and Mercantile Company. A few days after he negotiated for new premises in New Oxford-street, at a rent of £150, with £20 for the fittings. As the prosecution said, how was this to be accounted for? Certainly a profit by advertising was to be made in future; but still, in order to do that, he would have had to get permission of the surveyor of works. How on earth the hope that he would ultimately make that profit could help him to find the money which was necessary to go into the place was for the jury to say. He confessed he could not tell.

One had a Motive: the Other had Not.

The prosecution suggested that he intended to get the money from the insurance office, and of course there the jury had a motive in the action of Serne. But they should not allow anything against Serne to influence them in regard to Goldfinch; because they had the fact that Serne had not a shilling in the world; that he wished to start a new business; and, further, that he wanted money to meet outstanding judgments and outstanding debts, and also to be ready on September 29th with the rent of the house in the Strand, which would then have become due. There was no doubt that in insuring his premises Serne had considerably over-estimated the value of his property, for was it not proved that everything he possessed in the world was covered by a bill of sale for £80? They ought not, of course, to give too much attention to this fact, but it was one which they must consider, and which could not be withdrawn from their attention. Dealing with the statements of policemen and others as to what they saw on arriving at the scene of the fire, Mr. Justice Charles said it was for the jury to say what explanation, consistent with accident, could be given to account for a fire in the shop in two corners, the flames of which did not reach to the first floor, where another fire was seen burning. It was admitted that the prisoners did not go to bed until a quarter to one, and they at twenty past the place was ablaze in three different parts. Further than that, when a window was broken at the back of the premises flames were seen coming through between the first and second floors, but the ceiling of the second floor had not been reached by the flames. Nevertheless, the third floor, besides the first and second, was all ablaze, and flames were leaping up the wall. He confessed the evidence against Goldfinch was excessively slender, and it was unnecessary to caution the jury that it would not do to convict him on suspicion. They could only do so if they thought his conduct pointed to the conclusion that he was mixed up in the affair.

The jury retired to consider their verdict at twenty minutes past twelve o'clock, and at five minutes past one they returned into court, finding Serne guilty, and Goldfinch not guilty.

Serne's Antecedents.

Mr. C. Matthews thought it was right that the court should know that down to the year 1882 Serne had lived in Holland. He was sentenced to imprisonment at Haarlem for larceny, and later on at Amsterdam to three months' imprisonment for wilful ill-treatment. He then came to London, as his description was circulated in Amsterdam. In 1883 he was tried at that court and sentenced to eighteen months' hard labour on a charge of fraud in connection with the Steam Navigation Company, and in 1884 he was struck off the list of the inhabitants of Amsterdam.

The Sentence.

The learned judge, in passing sentence, said the jury had come to the only conclusion at which reasonable men could have arrived with regard to the prisoners at the bar. Upon the previous occasion the jury acquitted him of the crime of having wilfully murdered the two unfortunate boys who lost their lives upon the night of the fire, and in the heavy sentence which he felt it his duty to pass upon him he considered that fact. But apart from the crime of murder, he had committed about the worst crime he well could do. With a view of defrauding the insurance company, he fired the house at a time when he knew his wife and children were in it, and when, in fact, two were burned to death and the others exposed to terrible risks, while of course he, a strong man, could easily escape. In conclusion, the judge said:—"I regard your crime as one of the most serious description, and I order you to be kept in penal servitude for a term of twenty years."

The Scene in Court.

During the summing-up of the judge the prisoner Serne was unusually quiet, but during the previous part of the trial he frequently leaned over the dock and spoke to his counsel, Mr. Geoghegan. At other times he made comments on the evidence given by the witnesses, until his counsel, in angry tones, compelled him to desist. The previous evening, while Mr. Poland was replying on behalf of the Crown, the wife of the prisoner became unwell, and then Serne, who is a man of very excitable temperament, jumped up from his seat in the dock, and one of his little daughters shouted out to the learned counsel, "Oh! you mean thing." During the first part of Saturday morning's proceedings his daughters sat in the court, but were so affected at the mention of the death of their unfortunate little brothers that they were obliged to leave. Just before the jury retired to consider their verdict, Serne seemed to feel the dangers of his position, and with a frightened expression of countenance asked to be allowed to explain two points in the case, both with regard to the new premises in Oxford-street, and concerning the "transparencies." The judge allowed him to ramble on for some time, and then he concluded by thanking "my dear lord" for his kindness. When the jury returned with their verdict Serne looked pale and anxious. He seemed beside himself when the foreman said they found him guilty, and looked fiercely at Inspector Conquest. More than ever did he appear to give up all hope when counsel for the Crown mentioned his previous convictions, and wringing his hands in utter despair he buried his head in them on the front of the dock. The words of the judge seemed to make him realise his position, and with earnest attention he listened to the condemnation of his actions which fell from the lips of Mr. Justice Charles. Just as the judge was saying "It is my duty to pass upon you," Serne

shouted out in an agonised manner, in broken English, "My dear lord, may I interrupt you, for one little minute?" "I will not hear you," said Mr. Justice Charles, and the sentence of penal servitude for twenty years was pronounced. Serne then said, "Allow me to speak, for so many perjuries, and mistakes, and falsehoods have occurred—and I am able to show every minute of my life that there has been perjury, perjury, perjury!" The prisoner commenced gesticulating wildly, and then, at the order of the judge, the warders closed round him. While he was disappearing out of sight down the stairs of the dock, he cried out, "Good day, friends," and finished his remarks in Dutch, throwing his arms about the while. By this time Goldfinch had left the court, a free man, and they had no power to reduce the charge to one of arson. They might for anything the present jury knew have thought that the prisoners did not set fire to the premises, but they were not asked to pass judgment on such a point. They also might have thought that they did, or one of them did, cause the fire, but still shrank from the terrible conclusion that they had the intention to destroy Serne's two boys. Therefore, it was for the present jury to decide, independently altogether of the previous inquiry, whether the two prisoners, or either of them, committed the crime of arson.

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The Rev. George Butterfield, dressed in a shabby cassock, was charged on remand, at the Westminster Police Court, with being drunk and brawling at Sunner-place, South Kensington. Evidence was given on the first hearing as to the offences with which the defendant was charged. Mr. Safford, the chief clerk, now stated that since the remand there had been a number of communications received respecting the accused, who was a man of great intellectual power and a fine classical scholar. His craving for drink was, however, insatiable. Inspector Haswell, B Division, said accused had been convicted of drunkenness at Birmingham, Bath, Wallingford, Headington, Sutton Coldfield, West Ham, and other places. Half the bishops of England—particularly the Bishop of Rochester—had tried to reform him, and Cardinal Manning had also interested himself on his behalf. Many clergymen had assisted him, but he remained a confirmed dipsomaniac. The Rev. John Napleton, of Wymington Rectory, said he attended the court to offer some assistance to save the accused, whom he had personally known since 1860, when he was curate to his (Mr. Napleton's) late father, the incumbent of All Saints, Lower Marsh, Lambeth. Prior to that the defendant was curate at Cheveley, near Newbury, Berks. Defendant was dismissed from his appointments for drunkenness and domestic differences arising therefrom. Mr. D'Eyncourt said that it was a shocking and deplorable thing that a man of such talents should be the slave of such a horrible propensity. The only possible hope for him was to go into a home for inebriates for a long period. Defendant: I should only be too willing to do so, sir.

Mr. Safford: Understand, Mr. Butterfield, that it will be a certified home, and that you bind yourself to stay a certain time. You can be kept compulsorily. Defendant: I am quite willing to sign any such agreement. Mr. D'Eyncourt: Will you remain there a year? Defendant: Yes. The Rev. Mr. Napleton said the case excited great interest in church and temperance circles, and if defendant was kept in custody another week the necessary arrangements might be made. Defendant expressed the hope that he might be discharged to the workhouse. Mr. D'Eyncourt: No. You are charged with an offence under the Vagrant Act, and I shall further remand you so that you can be sent to a Home for Inebriates. I cannot refuse bail, but I hope no one will be bail for you. It is better for you to be restrained from the property.

A MAN WITH TWO MOUTHS.

The New York Times says they have got a two-mouthed man up in the Bowery. He is a blonde young man, with a smooth face and a sort of sewer-gas expression, who sits on a platform, drinks water with one mouth and simultaneously smokes a cigarette with the other, and does various other similar dexterous for the delectation of the mob. His upper mouth is in the fashionable locality, and constitutes a medium-sized aperture immediately under his nose and immediately over his chin. His other one is underneath his chin. The lower one is not good for much, as he has had brass lips fitted to it, and the two-headed cow, who felt quite badly when he came, has become reconciled after watching his performances. Otto Teipeler is the man. In a talk with him Otto did not exhibit that satisfaction over his unusual blessings that one might expect. He said that he was born that way and could not help it. His folks were poor, and he supposed it was a sort of congenital sarcasm on his parents, who already had more mouths to fill than the larder was equal to. When Otto talks he uses his upper mouth and shuts the lower one with his finger. This gives him a sort of flagolet manner that is a little trying. It seems as if he were playing conversational tunes on himself. Otto is not a pleasant object to gaze at excessively, and as a wall decoration he would not succeed. The brass cap on the unnecessary aperture in his wind-pipe gives him a sort of Frankenstein look, and conveys the idea of chamois skin lungs and a morocco leather heart. He does not look at all happy, and in comparison with him the armless wonder, as he passes a fork-load of fried potatoes to his mouth by aid of the first and second toes of his right foot, is a thing of beauty and joy for quite a while.

SMART CAPTURE OF BANK ROBBERS.

Four masked robbers entered the Citizens' Bank at Limestone, Idaho, on the 21st inst. The leader presented a pistol at the cashier's head, demanding the surrender of all cash in the bank. While pretending to comply with this demand, the cashier suddenly shut and locked the safe. He was shot dead instantly. The robbers then ransacked the bank, and obtained 2,300 dollars. The pistol shot attracted the townspeople, about thirty of them running towards the bank, and as the robbers were mounting their horses to escape, the people fired at them, killing one man. The thieves returned the fire, wounding four of their assailants, and then rode rapidly away, the citizens pursuing. After an hour's chase all the robbers were captured and brought back to the town. Their leader, on its being proved that he had killed the cashier, was hanged. All the stolen money was recovered. The other two robbers were sent in custody to Fort Washakie.

THE PROPOSED PARK FOR BRIXTON.

A deputation, representing the committee which has been formed for the purpose of securing a public park, waited on Tuesday upon Mr. Anstie, Q.C., one of the charity commissioners, at Whitehall, with the view of asking the assistance of the commissioners. Mr. J. F. Reid mentioned that the estate in question comprised about twelve and a half acres. The wealthy people who formerly resided at Brixton had gone further into the country, and the sites which their houses formerly occupied were now covered with streets of houses tenanted by artisans and clerks. The Metropolitan Board of Works and the Lambeth Vestry had each promised a contribution of £1,000 per acre towards the purchase, and the deputation hoped that if it could be shown that the scheme could be completed, those contributions should be increased. The historic house of Sir Walter Raleigh formed part of the estate, and it was suggested that it should be used as one of the free libraries now being established in the parish. In the course of a general discussion which ensued, the deputation asked the commissioners to make a similar contribution to that promised by the Board of Works and the Lambeth Vestry—£1,000 per acre. Mr. Anstie promised to lay the facts before the commissioners, and Mr. Reid having thanked Mr. Anstie for his courtesy, the coroner adjourned the inquiry for a fortnight.

The Oxford and Cambridge boat race has been fixed to be rowed on Saturday, March 24th.

The Driffield bench on Thursday committed to the assizes a lad named William Spain on a charge of arson. He is alleged to have set fire to his master's farm at Bainton, whereby a large amount of damage was done.

SAVAGE ATTACK BY BURGLARS.

At Worship-street Police Court, Albert Martin, 50, describing himself as a sailor, living in Martin-street, Bethnal Green, was charged with having been concerned with a man not apprehended in attempting burglariously to break and enter the dwelling-house, 33, St. Peter's-street, Mile End, and, further, with feloniously wounding Police-sergeant Charles Adams, 34, J, with intent to avoid arrest. The sergeant stated that about 1:30 on the morning of the 21st December his attention was drawn to the house mentioned by a dog barking. On going there he saw the prisoner inside the gate, near the door. Witness entered the gate, and then the prisoner and a second man made a rush to get out. He seized the prisoner, and a struggle commenced. The second man attacked witness, and struck him a blow on the back of the head with something hard. He followed that up by a blow at the head, and witness, putting up his arm to ward it off, received a cut through his coat, tunic, and shirt. He then released the prisoner, and struck the other man with his truncheon. As he did so the prisoner attacked him, and struck him a blow on the right side of the head with some heavy weapon. Witness fell senseless, and on recovering found that the men were gone, and he himself being assisted by a man. Being removed to the station he was attended by the doctor, and had been off duty ever since. At the time of the struggle some keys had been taken from the prisoner, which witness now produced, they having been kept at the station ever since. On Sunday he identified the prisoner in custody at the station, and was positive as to his identity. The prisoner asked to see the keys, and on their being handed to him, said they were his, but had been taken out of his room only on Saturday. Mr. Edmund Child, residing at the address given, said that he was called up by the police to examine the house, and he found marks on the door corresponding to the broad chisel produced. Mr. Patrick Quinlivan, assistant divisional surgeon, said that Sergeant Adams, perhaps, would not again be fit for police-duty. Detective-sergeant Waller deposed to the arrest of the prisoner at a house in Lisburn-street on Saturday night. He had been on the lookout for prisoner for four months past on other charges, which would not be proceeded with in face of this charge. The chisel produced was found in the prisoner's pocket on his arrest. The prisoner protested that if the police had wanted him they knew where to find him. He made no answer to the charge, and was fully committed for trial at the Central Criminal Court. It is stated that the prisoner is a notorious housebreaker, who has served several terms of penal servitude, and has a long list of convictions against him.

THE PROPERTY OF PRISONERS.

At the Southwark Police Court this week, an elderly man, said to be a native of the United States of America, applied to Mr. Slade for his assistance in the restoration of certain property belonging to him, at present in the hands of the authorities of Scotland Yard. It appeared that some weeks ago the applicant was charged on suspicion with stealing the property in question, consisting of broken pieces of plate and jewellery, but having satisfied the magistrate that they were not stolen, he was discharged and the property ordered to be restored to him after the expiration of a month from his release. At the end of that time he applied to the police for his goods, but the Scotland Yard officials declined to give them up without a written order from the magistrate. Mr. Slade declined to give the order, and granted the applicant a summons against the police commissioners for detaining the property.

STRANGE CONDUCT OF A LADY.

At the Weymouth Police Court, a young married lady, named Florence Williams, residing at Carlton Villa, was brought up in custody for stealing nearly 100 china figures and other Worcester ware, of the value of nearly £20. Mr. Wallis, who keeps a china shop has been missing articles from his shop, but could not detect the culprit. On the 21st inst. the prisoner came and made a purchase, when, in the absence of the assistant, she stole two china figures. When she had left the theft was detected, and prisoner was requested to return, and was charged with having stolen the goods. She then produced them from a small basket, begged to be forgiven, and offered to give a cheque for £10 to settle the matter. This was refused, and she was given into custody. When the police went to her house they were shown a great quantity of china figures and other goods, which Mr. Wallis and Mr. Godwin, another china dealer, identified as having been stolen. Prisoner, through her solicitor, pleaded guilty, the defence of kleptomania being set up. She was committed for trial at the assizes, bail being accepted.

THE MISTAKEN IDENTITY OF A POLICE CONSTABLE.

In the Queen's Bench Division, Mr. W. Thompson moved for a certiorari to quash an order made by Mr. Bridge, one of the Bow-street magistrates, on a summons at the suit of Mr. Fergus O'Connor against a police-constable for assault. The summons was issued against Police-constable 98, A, who did not appear, and it was stated that he was a detective employed abroad, and that he was not in England when the alleged assault was committed. At an adjourned hearing the solicitor to the Treasury appeared for the police and the case was dismissed, an order being made against Mr. O'Connor for £10 10s. costs. It was now contended that the magistrate had no defendant before him, and, therefore, had no power to grant costs. The court, on the grounds that the solicitor to the Treasury appeared for the defendant, refused to quash the magistrate's order.

STRANGE AFFAIR AT CROYDON.

Mr. W. P. Morrison, coroner, held an inquiry at Croydon concerning the death of Charlotte Elizabeth Crust, aged 31 years, lately residing at Jarvis-road, South Croydon, who died on the 20th inst.—Charlotte Stevens, a sister-in-law, stated that the deceased had lived very unhappy with her husband, and on Christmas Eve she declared that she would take poison the first time she got the chance. Witness told her not to be so silly. She had been married three years, but witness did not know whether she had any cause for being jealous of her husband. She had a very violent temper. Dr. Paul Jackson said that he was called on the afternoon of the 20th, and found the deceased being supported by neighbours. She was very pale, and covered with perspiration, and she said she had a burning sensation in her inside. He asked her whether she had taken poison, and she replied, "Salts of lemon." She repeated that several times, and turning over on her side, became convulsive, and died in a few minutes. Just before she expired she said to her husband, "You have driven me to this." The latter seemed much distressed. Salts of lemon consisted of potash and oxalic acid, and was used by laundresses to take stains out of linen; it had been known to cause death in eight minutes. The deceased died in great agony. Mary Ann Hooker, laundress, in whose service the deceased was, deposed that Mrs. Crust had complained to her of her husband's conduct, and she had latterly been much distressed. Salts of lemon consisted of potash and oxalic acid, and was used by laundresses to take stains out of linen; it had been known to cause death in eight minutes. The deceased died in great agony. Mary Ann Hooker, laundress, in whose service the deceased was, deposed that Mrs. Crust had complained to her of her husband's conduct, and she had latterly been much distressed. 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THE PEOPLE" MIXTURE.

There are about 600 native newspapers in India.

A woman named Emma Cottrell, who has just died in Connecticut, had attained her 113th year.

Cold weather of unusual intensity prevails in various parts of the United States.

The Nepal revolution has completely collapsed.

A male otter, weighing 20lb., has been caught on the Surrey side of the Thames by a Staines fisherman.

Rudolph Bemer has been fined £5 and costs at the Thames Police Court for having assaulted Otto Kettleman at the German United Club, Whitechapel, by throwing him down the steps.

Intelligence has reached Melbourne from Samoa that at the latter place the Germans were enforcing the payment of taxes, and the proclamation of a German protectorate was expected.

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A terrible accident has occurred on the Boston and Maine Railway, on the bridge which spans the Merrimac River, resulting in the loss of twelve lives and the injury of about forty to fifty others.

John Randall, a Margate waiter, was leading a colt with a long halter, one end of which he had twisted round his wrist, when he stumbled and fell. The colt dragged him a considerable distance, breaking his neck.

Recruits to the number of 129,240 entered the German Army and Marine in 1887. Of these 13,203 had received an education in German, and 4,832 in a foreign language, while only 1,215 could neither read nor write.

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An imposing military funeral, attended by a great concourse of people, took place at Hythe on Tuesday, when Sergeant-major Suliffe, who was one of the Six Hundred in the Balaclava charge, was buried.

The death rate of London further rose last week to 234 per 1,000 annually. There is still an excessive mortality from whooping cough, and there were nearly 600 deaths from diseases of the respiratory organs.

Samuel Bowman, who resided in Loma, Ohio, told his wife—she had touched a match to a can containing oil, which was being heated—that he wanted to see the gas burn. An explosion followed, both Bowman and his wife being severely injured.

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LORD CHARLES BERESFORD ON HIS RESIGNATION.

Lord Charles Beresford addressed a meeting of his constituents in St. Andrew's Hall, Newman-street, Oxford-street, on Thursday night, and explained the reasons for resigning his position as Junior Lord of the Admiralty. He regretted the absence of some of his Conservative supporters and the chairman of the Conservative Association, and thought his conduct should not have been condemned until he had had an opportunity of explaining. His resignation had nothing whatever to do with the policy of the Government. He referred to the document which he issued in 1856, in which he pointed out that in the distribution of business in the Admiralty there was not a single shadow of organisation for war. Their fleet was totally incapacitated from being able to use the forces which they possessed if they had been called upon. He had insisted upon the importance of the formation of an intelligence department and the supply of cruisers and torpedoes. This led to the appointment of a committee of seamen at the Admiralty and the formation of a new department. The First Lord of the Admiralty at first consented to certain salaries, and afterwards changed his opinion, owing to the action of the Lords of the Treasury. He contended that this ought not to have been possible and he had put his views before the Prime Minister, who received him most pleasantly and whosaw the point of his objections. He gave illustrations of the valuable work which the intelligence department had already accomplished as to the equipment and provisioning, and coaling of ships, and the furnishing of swift cruisers, and the arming of auxiliary forces. He acquitted Lord George Hamilton of any blame, and credited him with having worked his board better than any previous First Lord of the Admiralty. He held however, that the First Lord of the Admiralty ought to take the opinion of his board, and asserted that Parliamentary control over the Naval Estimates was a myth. They must endeavour to reform the naval administration from the top, and consideration must be given to the opinion of experts. The Navy and the Army were national forces, and he asked that in their administration they should forget party differences, and work for the good of the nation.

LEAVING A FAMILY TO STARVE. A Distressing and Shameful Case.

At the Clerkenwell Police Court on Thursday, William Harrington, 33, a jappanner, was charged on a warrant with neglecting to provide adequate food and clothing for his three children, under the age of 14, whereby their health was likely to be seriously injured.—Mr. Ricketts prosecuted on behalf of the St. Pancras guardians, and stated that the prisoner, who was a widower, had four children—Mary, aged 14, James, aged 9, John, aged 7, and Alice, aged 4. His wife died about two years ago. He was in regular employment, and had been for years, as a jappanner, earning, while he worked full time, 25s. a week. Lately he had earned an average of a pound a week. The evidence would disclose one of the most shocking cases of neglect of children that had ever come before a police court.—Joseph Osborne, chief sanitary inspector for St. Pancras parish, said that last July the prisoner and his four children lived in a room at Fitzroy-place, Euston-road, but as the place was quite unfit for habitation he ordered their removal. They now lived at No. 18, Equity Buildings, Phoenix-street, Somers Town. On Friday, the 20th inst., he called at the house between ten and eleven in the morning and opened the front door. There were only two rooms, it being a small cottage. The door of the front room opened into the passage, and it was nearly of hinges. He knocked, and after some delay, caused by the eldest child moving away a large wooden prop that was on the other side, the door was opened.

A Dreadful Den.

The room was so dark that he could hardly see, and the stench that arose was overpowering. He was obliged to wait a few seconds before he could summon courage to go in. On entering the room he found the shutters closed over the window. He opened them and saw that nearly every window-pane was broken. There was a table, a chair, and the mere framework of a bedstead in the room, which could not be slept upon. Three children were there, the boy James, aged nine, being absent. The eldest girl, aged 14, who opened the door to him, was in a very dirty condition, clothed in rags scarcely sufficient to cover her. The boy John, aged 7, was sitting in a chair crying. He had nothing on but a ragged old overcoat—no underclothing of any kind. On the floor, lying amongst some loose bed-flocks, was the youngest child, the girl aged 4. She was also black with dirt, and all but naked. There were a few cinders, barely alight, in the fire-grate. The second room was also rented by the prisoner. None of the children were in that. It was in a fearful condition, the floor being covered with filth. A door opened from that room into the front room. Witness caused the rooms to be disinfected at once, and in the afternoon all the children were taken to the St. Pancras Workhouse. Further evidence was given by an assistant relieving officer, the workhouse surgeon, Dr. Dunlop, and by two neighbours living near the house. Their statements showed that the prisoner hardly ever went near his children. They were often found by the neighbours—generally by Mrs. Lydia Smith, of 19, Equity Buildings, in a half-starved condition, cold, filthy, and utterly wretched—in fact, they would certainly have been dead long ago if they had not been fed by the neighbours. Since they had been in the workhouse they had been doing well.—Mr. Barstow said he never heard a worse case of child neglect than this. It was most shocking to hear of. If it had not been for Mrs. Smith and the other neighbours the children must absolutely have starved. He sentenced Harrington to six months' imprisonment, with hard labour.

A VICTIM OF AN ANONYMOUS LETTER.

Dr. Diplock held an inquest on the body of Nellie Cook, a girl 17 years of age.—Esther Cook, the mother of the deceased, who gave her evidence in a condition bordering on hysterics, said she lived at 28, Leader-street, and her husband was a gilder. She had been staying at 62, College-street, and her daughter also had slept there generally since leaving her last place. The deceased had been ill more or less since last spring, but on Thursday morning, the 19th inst., on going to call her daughter, witness found her breathing hard and in an unconscious state. She remained insensible till she died. On the previous morning witness's husband had received an anonymous letter enclosing a newspaper cutting, giving an account of a child murder, and stating that once a little girl had been met carrying a child's body in a basket, and on being questioned had said she was taking it to a woman at Chelsea to be disposed of. Witness being unable to contain herself, asked her daughter if any one had ever molested her. The deceased said, "No, mother. Why?" and witness then showed her what she called "this dreadful letter." Nothing else happened till, on the following morning, witness found her daughter in the condition described. Witness had never seen anything to make her suppose the deceased had ever had a child.—Dr. Lehane said he was sent for on the morning of the 19th inst., and reached the bedside of the deceased at about twenty minutes to nine. He saw she was dying, and sent for further medical aid. On making a post mortem examination he found traces of carbonic acid and the several effects that poison would be likely to cause. He had no doubt that death was caused by poison.—The Coroner: Did you find any traces of her having had a child?—Dr. Lehane: Yes, there were evidences.—A verdict was at once returned of suicide while in a state of unsound mind.

The communication plate, one hundred years old, has been stolen from Harmondsworth Vicarage, near Uxbridge.

A SHOREDITCH SHOWMAN PROSECUTED.

The Tallest Soldier and the Fattest Woman.

At the Worship-street Police Court on Thursday, Thomas Cook, 40, Nathan Wallace, 42, and a man of colour who gave the name of John Paul, 30, were charged on a warrant with being concerned together in keeping a disorderly house—i.e., an unlicensed house of public entertainment—at 166, High-street, Shoreditch. Mr. Mills, solicitor, and Mr. Enoch Walker prosecuted on behalf of the Shoreditch Vestry; and Mr. Stephen Lynch, barrister, defended.—Mr. Walker, the vestry clerk, stated that the house had been opened for three weeks, and had been the cause of great annoyance to the inhabitants and to pedestrians in the thoroughfare. Last week the show consisted of the tallest soldier in the world, and this week there had been exhibited there the fattest woman in England. The prisoner Cook was the actual proprietor of the show, while Wallace and Paul stood as a rule outside the place shouting and enticing people to enter. Inside was a musical instrument. There was always a crowd outside, and foot passengers had to go into the road to pass. The inhabitants complained greatly of the nuisance.—Richard Jones, a dairymen, carrying on business next door to the premises complained of, said he could not get a respectable customer to come to his shop, and his wife and himself had for quietude to find refuge in another house.—Inspector Farquharson stated that, in company with other officers, he proceeded to the premises about eight o'clock on the previous evening. There were some 200 persons standing outside. Paul was at the door shouting. Inside the door was a young woman taking the money for admission, one penny from each person. Inside the place there were some seventy or eighty persons, and on a raised platform were seated two fat women. Witness then arrested the prisoners, Wallace and Paul, the former of whom had been describing the women inside, while the latter had been holding up portions of the women's clothing outside. The prisoner Cook surrendered that morning at the court.—Mr. Lynch said the proceedings at the show were thoroughly orderly, and it seemed to him that the provisions of the Act quoted, which was for the regulation of places of public entertainment, did not apply. There were similar shows being carried on in all parts of the metropolis, and an action was now pending concerning a show in the Tottenham Court-road.—Mr. Busby said that a properly drawn up complaint had been tried at this court, and under the Act he had no alternative but to send the case to the sessions.—Ultimately an adjournment for a week was taken.

THE ATTEMPTED MURDER OF INSPECTOR LANSDOWNE.

Some Discoveries and Arrests.

Frederick Bremham, 21, of 103, Pentonville-road, and Charles Smith, of 19, North Avenue, Clerkenwell, were charged at Clerkenwell Police Court on Thursday, with having in their possession a portmanteau known to have been stolen.—Detective-inspector Peel said the portmanteau was identified as the one which was recently stolen from the top of a cab while the owner was driving from Euston-square. A man had already been committed for trial at the Bow-street Police Court on a charge of fraudulently endorsing a cheque which had been taken from the portmanteau, and also of shooting Inspector Lansdowne.—Detectives Robinson and Heather, G Division, proved arresting the prisoners the previous night in North-street, Caledonian-road, with the portmanteau in their possession. Bremham was carrying it, and in answer to questions by the officers, he said the other man, Smith, asked him to carry it. Smith, however, said he knew nothing about it. They were both taken into custody, and at Smith's lodgings, which were afterwards searched, were found several articles which the police could prove had been stolen from the tops of cabs on different occasions. The portmanteau also contained a number of articles, which would be restored to the owner. Only the cheque had been removed.—Bremham now said that when questioned by the detectives he said he was carrying the portmanteau for the Prince of Wales; he did not say the other prisoner had arrested him to carry it.—Mr. Barstow remanded the prisoners.

THE BANKRUPTCY OF MR. BORLASE.

In the London Court of Bankruptcy on Thursday before Mr. Registrar Giffard, an adjourned meeting was held for the public examination of Mr. Borlase, formerly M.P. for St. Austell, and who had held the office of Under-secretary of the Local Government Board in Mr. Gladstone's Administration. Reports of the case have appeared in the *People* from time to time.—The bankrupt was now further examined by Mr. Woolf, counsel for Madame de Quirós, and stated that he had filed a supplemental account since the last sitting, and also an affidavit in verification of it. The accounts were made out by himself chiefly from his banker's pass-book. He had, to the best of his belief, entered in the accounts the moneys which he had received during the period over which the cash accounts extended—namely, from April, 1855, to the date of the receiving order. Mr. H. Aspinwall appeared as a creditor for £230 for money lent in January, 1857, and it was not paid into his banking account. He did not find that the receipt of the £230 was accounted for in his cash account. It appeared that his receipts had exceeded his payments by £382 1s., so that there appeared (adding the £230) to be £232 1s., which was not accounted for. Mr. Van Tromp, his solicitor, was credited for £200 for money lent and costs. He gave Mr. Van Tromp certain collections as security in March last. He could not distinguish between the money lent and the costs; but the money was lent before April, 1856, when the account commenced. With reference to a debt of £2,500 3s. 6d. due from Mr. Bryce Wright, he had estimated that it would produce the full amount.

HORRIBLE DISCOVERY AT GREENHITHIE.

For the last two or three days the inhabitants of Greenhithie have been in a state of great excitement, a report having been circulated throughout the village to the effect that a large bag, thrown from a railway carriage, and containing three bodies, had been found in a field near the railway. From the facts ascertained it appears that about a fortnight ago a gardener in the service of Mr. E. A. Roberts, of Greenhithie, was removing some mould from a heap in a meadow close to the railway, when he turned up something which looked like rotten flannel, and also old carpet bag. Beyond throwing the rubbish on one side, he took no more notice of it. Last Sunday afternoon Joseph Taylor, coachman to Mr. Roberts, went into the field to attend to some ponies which had been turned out there. His attention was attracted to the "rubbish" lying near the heap of mould, and with a hay-fork he probed the bundle of flannel, when our rolled the body of a baby. Near at hand he found the carpet bag, and not being able to make out what it contained, he went and informed Thompson, the village constable. Together they examined the contents of the bag, and discovered the remains of two infants in a very decomposed state. They had evidently been under the heap of soil for at least a year, but the body found wrapped in a portion of a blanket had only been dead a very short time. On Tuesday, by order of the coroner, Thompson had the heap overturned, when a blanket, a counterpane, a black quilted petticoat, a flannel one, and a pillow-case were found. There were no marks on the clothing to give any clue to the owner, and up to the present no idea can be formed as to how the remains got there.—An inquest on the remains was held on Thursday, when an open verdict of found dead was returned.

BURGLARS TRAPPED—FEARFUL STRUGGLE.

At Barnsley, John Hardman and John Smith, of Sheffield, have been remanded on a charge of breaking into the dwelling-house of Mr. John Greenwood, grocer, Broomhill, near Wombwell, on Sunday night, when a desperate encounter took place between the prisoners and two police officers who were secreted on the premises. Hardman appeared in court, but Smith was so badly injured that he could not appear.—Superintendent Kane said Hardman and the other man were charged with breaking into the premises of Mr. Greenwood by means of skeleton keys. Police-sergeant Williams and Police-constable Harnwell, from information received, went to the house about six o'clock on Sunday night, and the occupants went to church, leaving the officers in the house. About half past six o'clock the officers heard the front door opened, and shortly afterwards the bed-room door was opened. The intruders at once commenced to break open some drawers in one of the bed-rooms. The officers then came upon the scene, and a hand-to-hand encounter took place between them and the prisoners, in the course of which Smith was badly injured. The police officers were also seriously assaulted.—Hardman now asked if he could see a solicitor to seek advice. The prisoners had in their possession a large number of skeleton keys and other burglars' implements.

In a report in the *People* on Sunday last of an inquest on the body of Mr. Alphonse Mergott, who was asphyxiated in a bath-room, it was stated that the apparatus used in the bath-room was a "patent geyser." Maughan's Patent Geyser Company (Limited), the only makers of the patent geyser, request us to state that the bath-room question was not fitted with one of these, but with an entirely different apparatus.

A "MERRY MILL" AT WALTHAMSTOW.

At Stratford Petty Sessions on Wednesday John Lyons, 25, a butcher, of 7, Hemsley-place, Mare-street, Hackney, was charged with unlawfully engaging with another man, not in custody, in a prize fight at Higham Lodge, Walthamstow, on January 24th; and James Blumsen, 40, of Higham Lodge, Walthamstow, a licensed victualler; James Isaacs, 40, of the Plough and Harrow public-house, Harrow Green, Leytonstone; William Sergeant, 35, of the King and Queen public-house, Norton Folgate; Joseph Gobby, 33, of the Gun tavern, High-street, Shoreditch; Michael Hart, 33, of the Beehive tavern, Tottenham; and William Thomas, 45, a cheesemonger, of 156, Kentish Town-road, were also charged with being concerned in the said prize fight on the 24th inst. The whole of the prisoners, with the exceptions of Lyons, had been out on bail, and they brought to the court with them a whole host of friends, who soon took up all the available accommodation in the court.—Detective-sergeant Robert Day, of the N Division, stationed at Stoke Newington, said that at about eleven o'clock on Tuesday morning he was in company with Police-constable White 449 N, in the neighbourhood of Higham Hill, Walthamstow. In consequence of seeing an unusual number of people in Black Horse-lane go into Mr. Blumsen's premises by a small side door, they kept observation from the premises of Mr. Blumsen. After remaining in the empty house some time, they went to the back garden, and then proceeded to the back of Mr. Blumsen's garden. Through a gap in the hedge they saw a ring made with ropes and stakes, and in the centre were the prisoner Lyons and another man, just about finishing a round. There were about forty people around. The men were both stripped, and after the round were each taken into a corner, put in a chair and sponged and fanned with towels. They were fighting with their naked fists. They started another round, in the course of which Lyons was knocked down. They were then taken into the corner again and went through the usual business of sponging and fanning. All the defendants were there, and the witness knew them all except the prisoner Sergeant. The witness then sent for assistance, as the prisoner Lyons seemed "pretty well knocked out." A man sitting on the wall made some signs, and the prisoners and the others then ran in all directions, some of them passing the witness. The witness then sent to the station for as many constables as he could get, and kept observation. About twenty minutes after Lyons was let out of Blumsen's place, with about ten others. The witness arrested him, the others not interfering, as he knew them all. He proceeded to relate how he arrested the other prisoners on Blumsen's premises.—The prisoners were remanded, bail being accepted for all except Lyons.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Though every care will be taken to ensure the accuracy of the correspondence, the editor cannot accept any responsibility for accidental errors. Questions requiring to be answered the same week must reach the office by Wednesday morning latest. Week. Whenever the return of any MS. is desired it must be accompanied by a stamped and addressed envelope, otherwise it will be destroyed. Whenever payment is required for contributions they must be marked, the amount being either specified or left to the editor to fix.

N. H.—He died in 1853, in his 90th year.

FRED.—In 1858, Blue Gown being the winner.

SALMON.—Send the following whatever sum you consider adequate remuneration for his services, and warn him that if he does not cease from annoyances you will report all the circumstances of the case to the Incorporated Law Society.

EQUITY.—Since it is clear that the lady has merely a life interest in the property, she cannot possibly have any right of disposition by will. The story you have heard is sheer nonsense.

M. MORANT.—Quite out of date. Forward a stamped addressed envelope and the MS. will be returned.

T. CHARLEY.—It has been out of print for many years. Your best chance of securing a copy is to either make a round of second-hand bookshops or to advertise.

ONE IN THIRTY.—Apply at the stationer itself, where every volume will be once offered.

A. J. SIMPSON.—I. We know nothing about the concern; you must inquire for yourself. 2. Never heard of it.

O. G.—1. What do you mean by "lifehold property?" If it be personal estate, it is equally divisible among the children of the intestate. 2. The deceased being a widow, the children are entitled to one share, the remainder being divided among the surviving brothers and sisters.

A. R.—The adoption will have to be carried out according to the French law, and the child will possess whatever rights it bestows on such cases.

O. L. Y. S.—The child is presumably legitimate, having been born within due time. How could there have been issue of the marriage when the separation agreement was signed, considering that the parties had only been united for one month? The husband would not be able to obtain a divorce.

H. COOPER.—"The Devil's Die" has not yet appeared in book form, but will, no doubt, obtain a name shortly. One copy will be sent out in three volumes a week; it can be obtained of any bookseller. We are glad that you and so many others of our readers highly appreciate these stories.

J. B.—Yes, provided there be no fraudulent design. The change of name should be made as public as possible, in order to avoid any appearance of deception.

SIMPLEX.—All you have to do is to make application to some life insurance office of good standing, and inquire the terms of the policy. The premium varies at different offices. No legal assistance is required.

C. D. CLARKE.—The MS. was returned at once. You ought to have received it on Monday evening.

A. H. HORTON.—We have no knowledge of the society, and even if we had, it would be quite indefensible to either pause or ensure a private undertaking. There are scores of such concerns in London alone.

L. F. T.—We must leave it to you to find out whether judgment has been signed against you. If it was, the time that has elapsed is no bar to its enforcement whenever the creditor comes across you.

A. FERNER.—We never heard of the place, nor is it marked on our map of the country.

P.—The confession by itself would not be proof against the co-respondent; it would need to be corroborated by other evidence. It would be proof against the wife if she repeated on oath in court. Against your flattery, we are sorry.

D.—It would depend upon the circumstances under which she contracted the debt and the nature of the goods purchased. If it was a tallyman transaction, repudiate responsibility and fight the matter out.

F. F.—Every day, we believe, between the hours of 10.0 a.m. and 4.0 p.m.

M. H. P.—We are sorry to say that you are a completely ignorant person.

R.—It is, we fear, a case of desertion. Continue writing, and lay stress on the deplorable position in which you find yourself. Perhaps pity may move his heart to send you a little money occasionally.

JAMES.—The libellous youth can be prosecuted for criminal defamation, and be made to bear the consequences.

R. GOODWIN.—There is no lapse of time which nullifies a marriage, only divorce can do that. If the man is married to the trustee wife, returned, the second marriage would become null and void and its issue, if any, would be illegitimate.

PADDY.—Your being "put down" in the wrong name makes no difference whatever. You are entitled to bear your father's surname unless you prefer another.

A. CONSTANT HAFNER.—There is nothing for it but to pay the debt, or make arrangements with your friend to pay it out of his pocket.

J. R.—The presumption is decidedly in A.'s favour, but it would be most hazardous to give an off-hand opinion on a question of ownership to landed estate reaching back forty years. You should submit the whole of the evidence to counsel.

CONSTANT HAFNER.—Strictly speaking, the occupant of two ministerial posts is entitled to full salary for each. It has become the custom, however, to either reduce or surrender one.

R.—Both are grammatically correct; they bear slightly different meanings.

VOLUNTEER GOSSIP.

[Communications intended for this column should be delivered at the office not later than 6 p.m. on Thursdays.]

Some days may elapse before the War Office authorities arrive at any definite decision with regard to the Easter manoeuvres, as the views of all the metropolitan commanding officers have not yet been made known. There is little reason, however, to doubt but that Eastbourne and Dover will be the sites on which the marching columns will debouch on the Saturday preceding the review day. This arrangement seems to me to be somewhat absurd, for if officers, who are always grumbling at the expense their battalions are put to and the men are put to, through having to be conveyed a portion of the distance by train, would only come to the conclusion that any number of columns could march from London and fight their way into Aldershot, they would, so far as travelling expenses are concerned, have no grievance to complain of at all. It seems to me they must be mentally blind if they shut their eyes to this fact. The whole surroundings of the military camp are eminently suited for the purpose of military instruction, and yet some holiday resort is selected instead. I am afraid the people who have the matter in hand are not wise in their generation.

Neither at Dover and Eastbourne is there allow room enough for the men unless they trespass on private property. If they do this the farmers expect compensation, and the money necessary to meet their demands has to come out of the pockets of the public. Not so, however, on ground which is the property of the Crown, and which, from its very ruggedness, is better adapted for moving troops over than enclosed lands. There are frequently at this period of the year damp and sodden, and hardly fit for even infantry in the very lightest marching order, to move over. It is not yet too late for the War Office to speak out on this question. If it did, there can be no doubt but that the result would be beneficial to all Volunteers engaged in the operations.

From a correspondent I gather that on the occasion of church parades it is essential that the bandmaster should be an orthodox Church of England man. At a recent gathering of this description in the East of London, I am assured that some very amusing mistakes occurred owing to the bandmaster giving out the wrong tune. Whilst the organist was adhering to the programme, the band struck up an altogether different air, and thus confusion became worse confounded, and on one occasion the same tune was played to different airs twice over. In fact, the whole of the proceedings appear to have been almost as comical as the performance of the gentleman whom Artemus Ward is pleased to describe as the "Chowder-Headed Clam." The regiment had better leave church parades alone in future.

The funds of the Cheshire Rifle Association appear just now to be at a rather low ebb. The inhabitants of the county are evidently getting tired of contributing towards its support. This is unfortunate, as the War Office is just now under the impression that private contributions are numerous. No doubt the depression in trade has had a great deal to do with the falling off of subscriptions to the local corps, but, on the other hand, the Government itself is not wholly irresponsible for this result. The increase in the capitulation grant has very likely led many persons to suppose that the Government allowance is sufficient for all the purposes of a corps. A greater delusion could not possibly exist, but so long as it does prevail there will be a corresponding falling off in support from the outside public.

There is to be another attempt made by commanding officers in Lancashire to hold a review at Easter. Colonel Twentyman has been consulted on the subject, and there is every probability, should all officers work in harmony together, of marching columns being formed up in Manchester and Liverpool. The subject is being taken up with great earnestness by both Volunteers and departmental officers; and there is no reason why it should not be brought to a successful issue if all petty jealousies are sunk and a desire is shown to leave the matter entirely in the hands of the military authorities of the district.

Commenting on this subject, the Liverpool Courier says:—"There is one difficulty which has occurred in the Regular as well as in the Volunteer forces, viz., that commanding officers do not feel quite so much interest in sending out a detachment to serve under some one else, as they would if they were taking out and leading their entire regiment. In the making up of the Egyptian Camel Corps, the formation of detachments of mounted infantry, and other provisional regiments, this feeling has occasionally been manifested. It is to be hoped, however, that in order to show that Liverpool is not behind the metropolis in forming marching columns that can cover sixty or seventy miles of ground and manoeuvre in an intelligent manner, all commanding officers may pull together, although only one or two of their number will actually have the privilege of command—at any rate on the first occasion."

Lord Brassey, who is no mean authority on Volunteer matters, in the course of a speech delivered before the members of the London Chamber of Commerce on Wednesday, believes that Australia, thanks to her excellent Volunteer system, is able to defend herself. If this be so, surely we in England ought to be in a position to protect our coast line. Give us guns and the requisite amount of reserve ammunition, and no doubt we could do so, although we are still lacking in that organisation which is essential to success. The Duke of Cambridge hit the right key-note when he said, "Government would do nothing unless they had the people at their back." Well, the people have long ago been forewarned; how long it will take for them to be forearmed is a question which they only can answer.

The Aldershot Military Society makes a good start in having secured the services of Sir Henry Holford, who will deliver the opening lecture by reading a paper on "Rides and Rifling." In February, the Rev. E. Warre, D.D., head master of Eton, and honorary colonel of the Eton College Corps (the V.W. Oxfordshire L.I.), will lecture on "The History of Tactics." The two first lectures selected by the council of the society are thus officers of Volunteers, which is another of the small facts, pregnant with big meanings, for those who choose to follow out the train of thought thus suggested.

It is reported that a well-known shot, whose name has not been mentioned at Wimbleton during the past three years, will this season again enter the lists, and contend for prizes with the military B.L.R.C. Everybody will be glad to see Mr. Baker back again. When a young officer of the 2nd Middlesex he forged his way well to the front, and, later on, when he joined the L.R.B., he attained a position in the shooting world which few men of his age had ever reached before.

A Nordenfeldt machine gun has been authorised to be added to the equipment of the South-West Middlesex Rifles, making the fourth corps in London so provided. At the present moment the proper manner in which such guns should be used is a matter of debate. The question is whether the guns should be attached to battalions of infantry, and work as part of the battalions, or whether there should be a separate machine gun corps, on the lines of the artillery. The practical difficulty appears to be in providing a suitable carriage.

On Saturday, the 14th, the London Scottish was in grand form, the occasion being a smoking concert, which was presided over by Colonel Madson, the object being to present the regimental pipes with pipe-banners—emblems of distinction which territories have been confined to the band major. A very pleasant evening was

spent, during which the pipers, under Pipe-major Hall, gave some very successful selections of many well-known Scottish airs. During the performance several members and friends of the corps showed great musical ability. Such friendly gatherings as these tend to cement that feeling of esprit d' corps for which this crack regiment has so long been distinguished.

From returns just issued it appears that on the 1st of January the force of Royal Naval Artillery Volunteers consisted of 124 officers (65 active and 59 honorary), and about 1,500 petty officers, gunners, and buglers. The 65 active officers comprise 6 lieutenants-commanding, 6 instructing lieutenants, 38 sub-lieutenants, 1 staff-surgeon, and 16 surgeons; and the honorary list contains the names of 3 commanders, 33 lieutenants, 4 sub-lieutenants, 11 chaplains, 2 staff-surgeons, and 7 surgeons. Royal Naval Artillery Volunteer batteries have been formed in London, Brighton, Hastings, Bristol, Swansea, Carmarvon, Bangor, Birkenhead, Liverpool, Southport, Glasgow, and Great Yarmouth. The Great Yarmouth battery (numbering about sixty men) is the sole representative on the east coast of Great Britain of the Naval Volunteer force. As at present constituted, this force, says the *Army and Navy Gazette*, is a farce, but it contains the element of a splendid national defensive organisation.

ELMAZ.

VOLUNTEER REGIMENTAL ORDERS.

2nd LONDON.—Drill, Tuesday, at 8.30 p.m., Somers House, half battalion and recruits; K Company on duty. Thursday, at 8.30 p.m., Guildhall, half battalion and recruits; A Company on duty. Musketry: Close-firing and practice on Monday and Saturday. Annual church parades on Sunday, 10 a.m., and mustered at Aldershot at 2.30 p.m., review order (without rifles, side-arms, or traps).

3rd LONDON.—Company and recruits drill on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, from 8.30 to 9.30 p.m. Special drill on Friday, at 8.30 p.m., at the Royal Naval Artillery Headquarters, on Tuesday, at 3.30 p.m., at 8.30 p.m.; all members are requested to be present. General meeting of B Company on Tuesday, the 31st inst., at 8.15 p.m.

4th LONDON.—A general meeting of the corps will be held on the 1st of February, at 8.30 p.m., at the Royal Naval Artillery Headquarters, on Friday, at 8.30 p.m.; No. 1, Viceroy Hall, Turnham Green, from February 6th, at 8.30 p.m.; No. 2, 10, St. James's Street, from February 13th, at 8.30 p.m.; and Headquarters at 8.30 p.m.; No. 4, Elm Grove, Hammersmith, from February 1st, at 8.30 p.m.; No. 6, Old Barracks, Kensington, at 8.30 p.m.; No. 8, Hyde Park Barracks, from February 1st, at 8.30 p.m.; No. 7, Headquarters, every Tuesday, at 8.30 p.m.; No. 9, Central Hall, Acton, from February 2nd, at 8.30 p.m.

5th LONDON.—Sunday (this day), officers of A Company come on duty. Tuesday, school of arms at Headquarters, at 8.30 p.m.; E Company, drill at Polytechnic, at 8.30 p.m., Friday, at 8.30 p.m.; F Company, drill at the Royal Naval Artillery Headquarters, on Tuesday, at 8.30 p.m.

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SITUATIONS VACANT.—(CONTINUED).

GENERAL wanted, 8 in family, boy kept for rough work, age 20, wages £10 to £20.—**Mrs. Hetherington's**, 67, St. John's Hill, Clapham Junction.

GENERAL, to cook, wanted, 4 in family, housemaid kept, 25 to 30, wages £10 to £20, must be neat in appearance.—**M. T. Hetherington's**, St. John's Hill, Clapham Junction.

YOUNG GENERAL wanted, age 16 to 18, 2 in family, comfortable home, money given, £100 a week; wages £10 to £20.—**Mrs. G. Hetherington's**, 109, Queen's-road, Peckham.

GOOD GENERAL SERVANT wanted, 8 in family, another general, 16 to 24, wages £10 to £20.—**Mrs. Hetherington's**, 16, Leonard-place, High-road, Kensington.

GOOD COOK, wanted, age 22 to 30, must understand good cooking and have personal character, wages £20 and all found.—**Mrs. W. W. 16, Leonard-place, High-road, Kensington.**

GOOD GENERAL SERVANTS wanting places should apply to **Hetherington's**, 16, Leonard-place, High-road, Kensington.

WANTED, RESPECTABLE GIRL as **GENERAL SERVANT**, aged 16, wages £10 to £20.—**Westmoresland Vales**, Lonsdale-road, Thornton Heath.

GOOD PLAIN COOK wanted, age 22 to 35, for small family wages £20, and £5 per week for beer and washing.—**Mrs. W. Hetherington's**, Chief Office, 334, Strand, W.C.

PARLOURMAID or **HOUSE-KEEPER** and **PARLOURMAID** wanted, housemaid kept, wages £10 to £20.—**Mrs. Hetherington's**, 109, Queen's-road, W.C.

HOUSE-KEEPER or **MAID**, wanted, for private family in London, house kept, wages £20.—**Mrs. B. Hetherington's**, Chief Office, 334, Strand.

GENERAL SERVANT wanted for a flat in West-end, two ladies, wages £10 to £20.—**Mrs. F. Hetherington's**, Chief Office, 334, Strand, W.C.

MOTHER'S HELP wanted, age 22 to 25, only 1 child, would have entire charge of nursery, wages £12.—**Mrs. M. Hetherington's**, 216, Edgware-road, W.

GENERAL SERVANT wanted, age 22 to 25, able to do plain cooking, 2 in family, comfortable situation, wages £10 to £12.—**Mrs. V. Hetherington's**, 216, Edgware-road, W.

GENERAL SERVANT wanted, age about 20, able to do a little plain cooking, 2 in family, no children or washing, wages £10 to £12.—**Mrs. S. Hetherington's**, 334, Mile End-road.

YOUNG SERVANT wanted, age 15 to 17, to assist mistress generally, small family, no children, wages £20, £25 to 30, £30 a week.—**Apply**, Mrs. B. Hetherington's, 238, Mile End-road.

GENERAL SERVANT wanted, age 18 to 20, mistress does the cooking, 4 in family, no children or washing, comfortable home, wages £20 to £22.—**Apply**, Mrs. W. Hetherington's, 16, Leonard-place, W.

GOOD GENERAL SERVANT wanted for a business house, age about 25 to 30, cooking required, small family, another servant kept, wages £20, all found.—**Mrs. G. Hetherington's**, 16, Edgware-road, W.

HOUSE and **PARLOURMAID** wanted, 8 in family, young housemaid kept, must be a good waitress and dress-woman, personal character required, age 22 to 30, wages £18.—**M. C. Hetherington's**, 67, St. John's Hill.

TWO GENERAL SERVANTS wanted, age 18 to 21, one for house, one for maid, wages £10 to £12, small family.—**Mrs. G. Hetherington's**, 16, Queen's-road, Peckham.

GOOD GENERAL wanted for a business house, age 22 to 25, small family, no children, wages £10 to £12, also **girl**, age about 16, to assist.—**Apply**, Mrs. M. Hetherington's, 16, Queen's-road, Peckham.

GOOD GENERAL, age 20 to 30, small family, assistance given in boats, knives, and rough work, washing put out, wages £10 to £12.—**Mrs. B. Hetherington's**, 109, Queen's-road, Peckham.

NO Charge to General Servants—**GENERAL SERVANT** wanted, age 18 to 20, 2 in family, plain cooking superintendent, wages £20, good home.—**Apply**, Mrs. T. Hobbs, Stanley House, 61, St. John's Hill, Clapham Junction.

THOROUGH GENERAL SERVANT or **PLAIN COOK** wanted, 25, 3 in family, nice appearance, another servant kept, wages £20 to £25.—**Apply**, Mrs. S. Hetherington's, 16, Leonard-place, High-road, Kensington.

BETWEEN SERVANT wanted, for Streatham Hill, 2 other servants kept, good general not objected to, wages £10 to 12.—**Apply**, Mrs. B. Hetherington's, 16, Leonard-place, High-road, Kensington.

GOOD GENERAL SERVANT wanted, single-handed, age 24 to 30, small family, small flat, very light kitchen, wages £20, all found.—**Apply**, Mrs. B. Hetherington's, 16, Leonard-place, High-road, Kensington.

PLAIN COOK wanted at once, for Barnet, age about 25, wages £10 to £12, housemaid and nurse kept, only 2 in family and baby, very comfortable home.—**Hetherington's**, Elizabeth House, High-road, Hampstead.

ESSEX REGISTRY, 311, Essex-road, N.—Why pay exorbitant fees with other offices when you get settled without charge at the best and most reliable office in London?—Note above address. Call or write.

HEAD NURSE wanted, age 25 to 45, 4 children (youngest 2 months), under nurse kept, wages £10 to £20, good home.—**Apply**, Mrs. B. Hetherington's, 109, Queen's-road, Clapham Junction.

HOUSE and **PARLOURMAID** wanted, age 25 to 28, small family, wages £10 to £20, must understand her duties, comfortable situation.—**Apply**, Mrs. J. Hobbs, Stanley House, St. John's Hill, Clapham Junction.

KITCHENMAID wanted at once, age about 15, wages £9 to £10, 2 other servants kept, must be neat, respectable, with good character.—**Hetherington's**, Elizabeth House, High-road, Hampstead.

GENERAL SERVANT wanted at once, for Barnet, age about 20, wages £10, only 2 in family, page boy kept, must understand plain cooking, neat in appearance, and have good character.—**Hetherington's**, Elizabeth House, High-road, Hampstead.

ALL LADIES and **SERVANTS** should come to the superior Waiting-rooms and get SUITED.—27,795 engaged the last four years. The best and most respectable office in London.—**Mrs. Pipe's** Free Registry, 26, Edgware-road, Hyde Park, Comfortable bed-rooms from £5. 10s. a week.

GOLD WATCH GIVEN as a Reward to all Female Servants who have rendered service in their Employ for a year. For Office commanding the London Recreational District at St George's Fields, Charing Cross, or Tower Hill, E.C., or to nearest Volunteer Sergeant-instructor or other Recruiter.

ARMY SERVICE.

Messrs. LEWIS and HENDERSON, HOTEL and PUBLIC-HOUSE VALUERS AND BUSINESS TRANSFER AGENTS. 226, BLACKFRIARS-ROAD, S.E., and 12, THEOBALD'S-ROAD, GRAYS INN-ROAD, W.C. Registered of Hotels, Taverns, and Businesses Free.

£800 CASH.—FREE SPIRIT-HOU-E, fine position, West of London; payments average £20 monthly, full price; long valuable lease; low rent; same hands many years; prominent corner premises—LEWIS.

£200 INGOING-OLD-ESTABLISHED MARKET INN, Bucks; now under management of brewers; large trade to be done; good opportunity; rent £12.

£150 ALL AT.—GENUINE LITTLE COUNTRY PUBLIC, 50 miles from London; average £24 monthly; nice bar, eight rooms; rent only £12.—LEWIS.

£140 CASH.—FREE SPIRIT-HOUSE, Southwark; lease 17 years; opportunity for business; centre colony of houses; money saved here; working couples seek a trial.

£150 ALL AT.—OFF-LICENSE ALE STORES, with GROCERY, Chiswick; trade 17 barrels, and 200 grocery monthly; rent only £9.—LEWIS and HENDERSON.

COUNTRY GROCER'S, BAKER'S, and CORN DEALER'S, Dorking; trade 15 barrels, besides grocery and provisions; very convenient premises; pretty and healthy situation, only 2 miles from sea; good bakehouse, stabling, nice garden, and orchard; 2 vans, fixtures, utensils, &c.; £350.—LEWIS and HENDERSON, above.

£350.—COFFEE-TAVERNS, 17, Charing-cross; roundly by factories; trade £26 weekly; no bond; independently-letted premises; stat. 587. 8. 10s. per week; valuable fixtures and fittings included.

£200 CASH.—FREE BEER, Bow Common, E.; payment average £48 for last 4 years; lease 29 years; rent £50; same hands many years; selling solely through Charing-cross;—LEWIS and HENDERSON.

£60 CASH.—FREE ALE and STOUT-HOUSE, Walthamstow; trade 17 barrels monthly, besides sundries; 17 years; rent £10.—LEWIS and HENDERSON, above.

GENUINE BEERHOUSE, Surrey; payments £25 monthly; same hands 11 years; convenient house; rent £22, more than cleared by letting; £100, including good inventory.

£75 CASH.—FREE AND DINING, Deptford, S.E.; trade 16 monthly; same hands 7 years; nice shop, 6 rooms; lease 17 years; rent £30.—LEWIS and HENDERSON.

£150 CASH.—OFF-LICENSE ALE and STOUT, Brixley; compact bar, 8 rooms, good garden with fruit trees; rent £15, let off 18s. weekly; bargain.—PASSINGHAM and HALL.

£200 CASH.—FREE PUBLIC, 16, West-end, E.C.; trade 16 monthly; same hands 7 years; nice shop, 6 rooms; lease 17 years; rent £30.—LEWIS and HENDERSON.

£85 COUNTRY BEERHOUSE, Kent; paying £20 monthly; to brewers; well-fitted bar, 8 rooms, nice garden, pigeons, &c.; stat. £20.—LEWIS and HENDERSON.

£150 CASH.—OFF-LICENSE ALE and STOUT, 16, Blackfriars-road, and 12, Theobalds-road, W.C.

£150 CASH.—FREE, 16, West-end, E.C.; trade 16 monthly; same hands 7 years; nice shop, 6 rooms; lease 17 years; rent £30.—LEWIS and HENDERSON.

£85 COUNTRY BEERHOUSE, Kent; paying £20 monthly; to brewers; well-fitted bar, 8 rooms, nice garden, pigeons, &c.; stat. £20.—LEWIS and HENDERSON.

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USE
LIEBIG COMPANY'S EXTRACT OF MEAT.

The only sort ever guaranteed Genuine by Justus von Liebig. The Finest Meat-flavouring Stock. Use it for Soups, Sauces, and Made Dishes. Highly recommended as "Night Cap," instead of alcoholic drinks.

Ask for the COMPANY'S Extract, and see that it bears JUSTUS VON LIEBIG'S SIGNATURE IN BLUE INK across the Label.

ESTABLISHED 1825.

NEAVE'S FOOD

BEST AND CHEAPEST.

FOR INFANTS
INVALIDS, AND
THE AGED.

ESTABLISHED 1831.
BIRKBECK BANK.
Southampton Buildings, Chancery Lane.
THREE PER CENT. INTEREST allowed on DEPOSITS.
TWO PER CENT. INTEREST on CURRENT ACCOUNTS calculated on the minimum monthly balance when not drawn below £100.
The Bank undertakes for its customers, free of charge, the Collection of Deeds, Writings, and other Securities and Valuables; and the Purchase and Sale of Stocks, Shares, and Annuities. Letters of Credit and Circular Notes issued.

THE BIRKBECK ALMANACK, with full particulars, post free, on application.

FRANCIS RAVENSCROFT, Manager.

THE BIRKBECK BUILDING SOCIETY'S ANNUAL RECEIPTS EXCEED FIVE MILLIONS.

HOW TO PURCHASE A HOUSE FOR TWO GUINEAS PER MONTH, with immediate Possession, and in Rent-free. Apply at the office of the Birkbeck Building Society, 19, Southampton Buildings, Chancery-lane.

HOW TO PURCHASE A PLOT OF LAND FOR FIVE GUINEAS PER MONTH, with immediate Possession, either for Building or Gardening purposes. Apply at the office of the Birkbeck Building Society, above. —THE BIRKBECK ALMANACK, with full particulars, on application.

FRANCIS RAVENSCROFT Manager.

FOURTH CITY MUTUAL BUILDING AND INVESTMENT SOCIETY.

PRESIDENT—SIR S. H. WILLOWAY, BART.

TOTAL AMOUNT advanced, £1,70,000, balance to credit of investing members and depositors, £200,000.

Advances made on Building and Investment Securities on the following reduced scale of monthly repayments:

FOR EACH £100.

Eight Years. | Ten Years. | Twelve Years. | Fourteen Years.
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